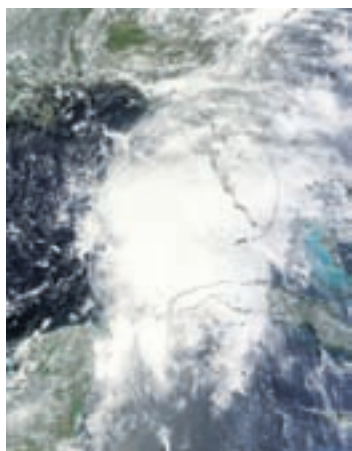


Andrea Soaks U.S. Southeast

JENNIFER KAY
Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — The first named storm of the Atlantic season hammered Florida with rain, heavy winds, and tornadoes Thursday as it moved toward the coast



A NASA satellite image shows Tropical Storm Andrea as it moves across the Gulf of Mexico and bears down on Florida's west coast. Andrea is the first tropical storm of the Atlantic hurricane season.

(AP Photo/NASA)

of Georgia and the Carolinas, promising sloppy commutes and waterlogged vacation getaways through the beginning of the weekend.

Tropical Storm Andrea was not expected to strengthen into a hurricane but forecasters warned it could cause isolated flooding and storm surge before it loses steam over the next two days.

Tropical storm warnings were in effect for a large section of Florida's west coast from Boca Grande to the Ochlockonee River and for the East Coast from Flagler Beach, Fla., all the way to Cape Charles Light in Virginia, and the lower Chesapeake Bay south of New Point Comfort. A tropical storm warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere inside the warning area within a day and a half.

Continued on Page 3



Pedestrians pass a Verizon Wireless store on Canal Street, Thursday, June 6, 2013, in New York. The Obama administration on Thursday, June 6, 2013, defended the government's need to collect telephone records of American citizens, calling such information "a critical tool in protecting the nation from terrorist threats." Britain's Guardian newspaper reported that the NSA has been collecting the telephone records of millions of Verizon customers under a top secret court order.

(AP Photo/John Minchillo)

Monumental phone-records monitoring exposed

DONNA CASSATA
NANCY BENAC

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A leaked document lays bare the monumental scope of the government's surveillance of Americans' phone records — hundreds of millions of calls — in the first hard evidence of a massive data collection program aimed at combating terrorism under powers granted by Congress after the 9/11 attacks.

At issue is a court order, first disclosed Wednesday by The Guardian newspaper in Britain,

that requires the communications company Verizon to turn over on an "ongoing, daily basis" the records of all landline and mobile

telephone calls of its customers, both within the U.S. and between the U.S. and other countries. Intelligence experts said the government, though not listening in on calls, would be looking for patterns that could lead to terrorists — and that there was every reason to believe similar orders were in place for other phone companies.

The disclosure comes at a particularly inopportune time for the Obama administration.

The president already faces questions over the Internal Revenue Service's improper targeting of conservative groups, the seizure of journalists' phone records in an investigation into who leaked information to the

media, and the administration's handling of the terrorist attack in Libya that left four Americans dead.

At a minimum, it's all a distraction as the president tries to tackle big issues like immigration reform and taxes. And it could serve to erode trust in Obama as he tries to advance his second-term agenda and cement his presidential legacy.

One outraged senator was Ron Wyden. He said, "When law-abiding Americans make phone calls, who they call, when they call and where they call is private information. As a result of the discussion that came to light today, now we're going to have a real debate."

But Sen. Lindsay Graham said Americans have no cause for concern. "If you're not getting a call from a terrorist organization, you've got nothing to worry about," he said.

At issue is a court order, first disclosed by The Guardian newspaper in Britain, that requires Verizon to turn over, on an "ongoing, daily basis," records of all landline and mobile telephone calls of its customers, both within the U.S. and between the U.S. and other countries. Intelligence experts said there was every reason to believe that similar orders were in place for other phone companies.

Continued on Page 4



Russian President Vladimir Putin and his wife Lyudmila attend the ballet "La Esmeralda" in the Kremlin Palace in Moscow, Russia, Thursday, June 6, 2013. Russian President Vladimir Putin and his wife Lyudmila said Thursday they are divorcing after nearly 30 years of marriage, making the announcement on state television after attending a ballet performance at the Kremlin.
(AP Photo/RIA Mikhail Klimentyev)

Putins announce their divorce

JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Vladimir Putin pulled off one of his most audacious pieces of stagecraft, attending a ballet with his rarely seen wife and then announcing their marriage is over. But how will it play to his audience of 143 million Russians?

The end of the marriage of the Russian president and Lyudmila Putina less than two months shy of their 30th anniversary came on state television after a Thursday evening that started out like a model of domestic contentment — a devoted husband taking his wife to the ballet.

But after the performance of "Esmeralda" at the Great Kremlin Palace, the two came into a luxurious room to speak to a reporter.

"Excellent. Great music, excellent production," Putin said and Lyudmila echoed his praise.

After about a minute, the reporter asked about rumors that the two didn't live together. Putin smiled slightly, like a boy caught misbehaving, and turned

his head toward Lyudmila. "This is so," he said.

It wasn't immediately clear if that meant just separate domiciles. After a few more comments, the reporter gently prodded: "I am afraid to say this word 'divorce'."

"Yes, this is a civilized divorced," Lyudmila said.

The peculiar format for the announcement appeared aimed at underlining that this wasn't just a powerful man dumping his faithful helpmate.

That's a potentially important strategic move for Putin, who has based his public image on rectitude and support of traditional values.

Tabloid reports in 2008 claimed that Putin already had divorced Lyudmila and planned to marry a gymnast less than half his age.

The Interfax news agency cited presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov as saying the divorce has not been formalized and that the televised comments were only an announcement of the decision to divorce.

Divorce is common in Rus-

sia, and nearly 700,000 pairs dissolved their marriages in 2009, according to UNICEF. Olga Kryshstanovskaya, a sociologist who studies Russia's political elite, said the divorce probably won't hurt Putin in the public eye — as long as he doesn't take a trophy wife.

"If a young wife appears, then the reactions in society may be very different," she said in an article published by the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda on its website.

For some of his detractors, the move even seemed to earn some grudging approval.

"For years I've heard that it would be good if Putin told the truth and divorced. And what now? Everyone's criticizing him for the divorce," Ksenia Sobchak, a socialite and supporter of Putin's opposition, wrote on Twitter.

Russian leaders, unlike their American counterparts, generally keep their domestic lives well out of public view. Lyudmila Putin was rarely seen in public during her husband's long tenure at the top of Russian politics. □

D-Day anniversary commemorations begin in France

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France (AP) — Veterans of the 1944 Normandy landings gathered Thursday at the site of history's largest amphibious invasion for a day of ceremonies marking D-Day's 69th anniversary. Around two dozen US vets, some in their old uniforms pinned with medals, stood and saluted during a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial overlooking Omaha Beach, where a U.S. cemetery holds the remains of over 9,000 Americans who died during the vicious battle to storm the French beach under withering Nazi fire. Commemorations of the June 6, 1944, battle began in respectful silence early Thursday morning, with the stars-and-stripes raised in a quiet ceremony at the cemetery. Tourists, many from the U.S. and Britain, gathered under a brilliant

spring sky to witness the flag-raising amid the neat rows of thousands of white marble crosses and stars of

David marking the graves of U.S. servicemen and women fallen in the Allied invasion of Normandy. On

June 6, 1944, Allied forces led by General Dwight D. Eisenhower stormed the beaches of Normandy,

France, on "D-Day," beginning the liberation of German-occupied Western Europe during World War II. □



Visitors walk among graves at the Colleville American military cemetery, in Colleville sur Mer, western France, Thursday June 6, 2013, on the day of the commemoration of the 69th anniversary of the D-Day.

(AP Photo/Remy de la Mauviniere)

U.S. family says it got letter from prisoner of war

Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The family of a U.S. prisoner of war captured nearly four years ago in Afghanistan says it has received a letter it believes was written by him.

U.S. Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl disappeared from his base on June 30, 2009, and is believed held in Pakistan. His mother and father issued a statement on Thursday saying they've received a letter they are confident was written by their son. Bob and Jani Bergdahl say the letter, delivered through the International Committee of the Red Cross, gives them hope that their son is doing as well as can be expected, under the circumstances. "Our family is greatly relieved and encouraged by this letter," they wrote.

They didn't release excerpts from the letter or detail its content.

They renewed their plea for his captors to release Bergdahl, who turned 27 on March 28.

"We hope Bowe's captors will again consider his parents' plea to release him, but in the meantime, we ask that you please continue to keep him in good health and allow him to keep corresponding with us," they wrote.

Col. Tim Marsano, a National Guard spokesman acting as a media liaison for the Bergdahl family, said details from the letter indicate it's genuine.

Though he hasn't seen the letter, it was his understanding that it was a physical letter and had been handwritten. Bergdahl's captivity has been marked by only sporadic releases of videos and information about his whereabouts.

Though he's thought by the United States to be held by the Haqqani Network, a Pakistan-based group that President Barack Obama's administration has declared to be a terrorist organization, leaders of the network said in December that Bergdahl was actually being held by another Taliban group. □

Tropical Storm Andrea hammers southeast U.S.

Continued from front

As of 5:45 p.m. EDT on Thursday, Andrea had made landfall in Florida's Big Bend area, about 10 miles (16 kms) south of Steinhatchee, Fla., with maximum sustained winds of near 65 mph (100 kmh). Rains and winds from the storm were forecast to sweep northward along the Southeastern U.S. coast Thursday night and Friday.

had been confirmed Thursday across the state. Scott urged residents to remain vigilant.

"This one fortunately is a fast-moving storm," he said. Slower-moving storms can pose a greater flood risk because they have more time to linger and dump rain.

Another threat to Florida's coast was storm surge, said Eric Blake, a specialist at the Hurricane Center. The

day. The national seashore abuts Pensacola Beach and the park road frequently floods during heavy rains.

Altogether, 30 state parks closed their campgrounds in Florida.

Meanwhile, south Georgia residents were bracing for high winds and heavy rains that could lead to flooding.

On Cumberland Island off the Georgia coast, the

ing the storm would pass through Georgia overnight, and the island would likely re-open to tourists Friday.

"It looks like it's picking up speed and that's a good thing because it won't sit and rain on us so long," said Jan Chamberlain, whose family runs the Blue Heron Inn Bed & Breakfast near the Sapelo Island Ferry station on Georgia's coast.



The High Hazard surf warning flag flies in front of the Atlantic Beach, Fla., Ocean Rescue station as it's nearly blown away by the winds. Wind, rain and heavy surf hit the area as Tropical Storm Andrea moved into Florida.

(AP Photo/The Florida Times-Union, Bob Mack)

The storm was expected to lose steam by Saturday as it moves through the eastern United States, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott said one of the biggest risks associated with the storm for Florida was the chance of tornadoes, eight of which

center said coastal areas from Tampa Bay north to the Aucilla River could see storm surge of 2 to 4 feet, if the peak surge coincides with high tide.

Gulf Islands National Seashore closed its campgrounds and the road that runs through the popular beach-front park Wednes-

National Park Service was evacuating campers as the storm approached.

"My main concern is the winds," said chief park ranger Bridget Bohnet. "We're subject to trees falling and limbs breaking, and I don't want anybody getting hurt."

Forecasters were predict-

In the Carolinas, Andrea's biggest threat was heavy rain, with as much as 6 inches expected, the National Weather Service said. Forecasters didn't expect major problems, however, along the most vulnerable parts of the coast such as the Outer Banks, a popular tourist destination. □

Bill to legalize web poker introduced in Congress

HANNAH DRIER

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Gamblers who prefer their laptops to blackjack tables could soon get a boost from Washington.

Republican New York Congressman Peter King introduced legislation Thursday that would rescue online

gambling from a legal gray zone and fully regulate it.

The federal government cracked down on online poker in 2011. But the same year, the U.S. Justice Department issued a ruling making online gambling legal so long as it's permitted on the state level.

Congress flirted with an on-

line gambling bill last year, but industry infighting and partisan disagreement ultimately doomed it. When that legislation failed, states began moving ahead with their own regulation.

Nevada, New Jersey and Delaware have legalized some kind of online gambling, and legislatures in

other states are weighing the issue.

King says his measure, called the Internet Gambling Regulation, Consumer Protection and Enforcement Act of 2013, would allow states and players to navigate the world of online betting with confidence. □

Monumental phone-records monitoring exposed

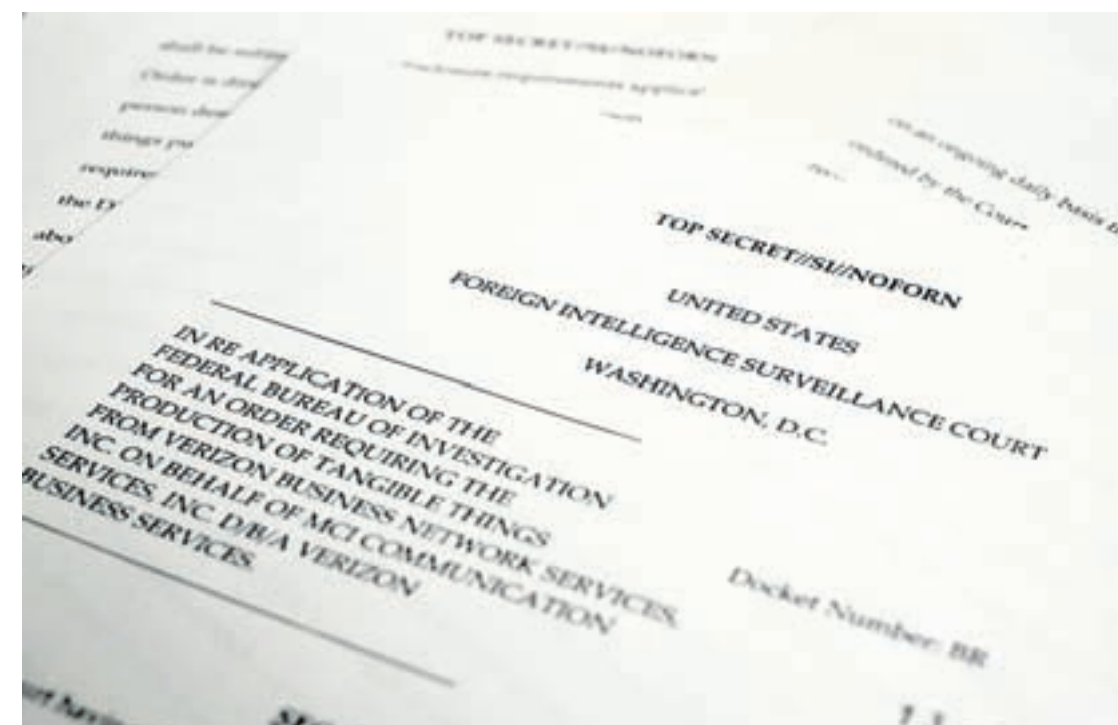
Continued from front

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairwoman Dianne Feinstein said the order was a three-month renewal of an ongoing practice that is supervised by federal judges who balance efforts to protect the country from terror attacks against the need to safeguard Americans' privacy. The surveillance powers are granted under the post-9/11 Patriot Act, which was renewed in 2006 and again in 2011.

While the scale of the pro-

grams might not have been news to some congressional leaders, the disclosure offered a public glimpse into a program whose breadth is not widely understood. Sen. Mark Udall, who serves on the Intelligence Committee, said it was the type of surveillance that "I have long said would shock the public if they knew about it."

The public is now on notice that the government has been collecting data — even if not listening to the conversations — on every phone call every American makes, a program that has operated in the shadows for years, under President George W. Bush, and continued by President Barack Obama.



This photograph made Thursday, July 6, 2013 in Washington shows a copy of the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court order requiring Verizon on an "ongoing, daily basis," to give the National Security Administration (NSA) information on all landline and mobile telephone calls of Verizon Business in its systems, both within the U.S. and between the U.S. and other countries.

(AP Photo)

gram might not have been news to some congressional leaders, the disclosure offered a public glimpse into a program whose breadth is not widely understood. Sen. Mark Udall, who serves on the Intelligence Committee, said it was the type of surveillance that "I have long said would shock the public if they knew about it."

"It is very likely that business

ing the nation from terror threats," by helping officials determine if people in the U.S. who may have been engaged in terrorist activities have been in touch with other known or suspected terrorists.

Privacy advocates said the scope of the program was indefensible.

"This confirms our worst fears," said Alexander Abdo, a staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union's National Security Project. "If the government can track who we call," he said, "the right to privacy has not just been compromised — it has been defeated."

Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner, who sponsored the USA Patriot Act that governs the collection, said he was

"extremely troubled by the FBI's interpretation of this legislation."

Attorney General Eric Holder sidestepped questions about the issue during an appearance before a Senate subcommittee, offering instead to discuss it at a classified session that several senators said they would arrange.

The Verizon order does not authorize snooping into the content of phone calls. But with millions of phone records in hand, the NSA's computers can analyze them for patterns, spot un-

NSA phone data program: What you need to know

MATT APUZZO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A leaked document disclosed the monumental scale of the U.S. government's surveillance of America's phone records, part of a massive data collection program aimed at combating terrorism. Here are some important details about the secret program and how it works:

Q: What happened and why is it a big deal?

A: The Guardian newspaper published a highly classified April U.S. court order that allows the government access to all of Verizon's phone records on a daily basis, for both domestic and international calls. That doesn't mean the government is listening in, and the National Security Agency did not receive the names and addresses of customers. But it did receive all phone numbers with outgoing or incoming calls, as well as the unique electronic numbers that identify cellphones. That means the government knows which phones are being used, even if customers change their numbers.

This is the first tangible evidence of the scope of a domestic surveillance program that has existed for years but has been discussed only in generalities. It proves that, in the name of national security, the government sweeps up the call records of Americans who have no known ties to terrorists or criminals.

Q: Why does the government even want my phone records?

A: They're not interested in your records, in all likelihood, but your calls make up the background noise of the global phone system.

Look at your monthly phone bill, and you'll see patterns: calls home as you leave work, food delivery orders on Friday nights, that once-a-week call to mom and dad.

It's like that, except on a monumentally bigger scale.

The classified court ruling doesn't say what the NSA intends to do with your records. But armed with the nation's phone logs, the agency's computers have the ability to identify what normal call behavior looks like. And, with powerful computers, it would be possible to compare the entire database against computer models the government believes show what terrorist calling patterns look like.

Further analysis could identify what are known in intelligence circles as "communities of interest" — the networks of people who are in contact with targets or suspicious phone numbers.

Over time, the records also become a valuable archive. When officials discover a new phone number linked to a suspected terrorist, they can consult the records to see who called that number in the preceding months or years.

Once the government has narrowed its focus on phone numbers it believes are tied to terrorism or foreign governments, it can go back to the court with a wiretap request. That allows the government to monitor the calls in real time, record them and store them indefinitely.

Q: Why just Verizon?

A: It's probably not. A former U.S. intelligence official familiar with the NSA program says that records from all U.S. phone companies would be seized, and that they would include business and residential numbers. Only the court order involving Verizon has been made public.

In 2006, USA Today reported that the NSA was secretly collecting the phone call records of tens of millions of Americans. The newspaper identified phone companies that cooperated in that effort. The newspaper ultimately distanced itself from that report after some phone companies denied being part of such a government program. The court document published by The Guardian, however, offers credence to the original USA Today story. □

Attorney general of New Jersey named as interim Senator



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, left, and Jeffrey Chiesa, New Jersey's state attorney general, during an announcement in Trenton, N.J., June 6, 2013. Christie on Thursday announced the appointment of Chiesa to fill the Senate seat left vacant by the death of Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.). (Jessica Kourkounis/The New York Times)

MARC SANTORA
KATE ZERNIKE
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Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey on Thursday appointed Jeffrey S. Chiesa, the state's attorney general, to temporarily fill the Senate seat left vacant by the death of Frank R. Lautenberg.

A special election to fill the seat for the remainder of Lautenberg's term will

be held in October, and Christie's announcement came as Democrats and Republicans across the state scrambled to line up support, raise money and secure enough signatures ahead of the deadline on Monday to compete in the August primary.

Chiesa, a Republican, does not plan to seek the seat himself, Christie said, opening up the field for others in

the party.

The governor revealed his decision at an afternoon news conference in Trenton. "It was unexpected for sure," Chiesa said.

He declined to detail his views on specific policy issues, including immigration, saying only that he wanted to be sure the nation's borders were secure. He described himself as a "conservative Republican."

"I need to learn about the issues before I can make any meaningful judgments," he said.

He offered a flash of his laconic humor when, after being read a long litany of issues he may have to confront during his short tenure, he replied, "Oh, is that it?" Chiesa served as chief counsel to Christie from January 2010 through December 2011, when he was nominated to be attorney general. Before that, he headed Christie's transition team after his election, and the two also worked together at the U.S. attorney's office.

Lautenberg, who was in his fifth term, died Monday at age 89. Christie first reached out to Chiesa, 47, about filling the seat that

night, and he noted that the two had been confidants going back more than two decades.

Matthew Hale, an associate professor at Seton Hall University who closely follows New Jersey politics, said that aside from an assumption that Chiesa would hold a tough line on law-and-order issues, it was hard to know how he might vote on many matters in Washington.

"There is just not a huge amount of information we have on his positions," Hale said.

Still, he said, Chiesa is a safe choice for the governor.

"This is someone that Chris Christie knows really, really well, trusts a great deal, and will not be surprised by," he said. □

Man slits his wrists outside NBC's 'Today'

Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — A 76-year-old man yelling that the government was going to take his house slit his wrists outside NBC's "Today" show Thursday before he was taken into police custody, police said. Pak Chong-Mar was in the crowd outside the "Today" studio at Rockefeller Plaza and also was yelling about how the Internal Revenue Service was corrupt and ruined his life, authorities said. Police and plaza security guards quickly subdued the man, authorities and witnesses said. Some bystanders were treated for exposure to blood. Police took the man to a hospital where his mental health was being evaluated. His injuries were not life threat-

ening.

"I need people to help me fight for justice," Pak told the Daily News of New York from his hospital bed afterward.

"If I don't do something drastic, sooner or later these guys are going to kill me anyway. I couldn't even pay rent this month." His daughter told the newspaper what had happened was "sad."

Authorities said the man's behavior was not thought to have been caught on television. The show moves inside and outside the studio.

Lauer later sent another Twitter message that read: "All secure on the plaza after a scary incident. Thanks to our security team and the NYPD." □

NBC News said in a statement that it followed its security procedures. "We are very grateful for the actions of our security team and the NYPD that no others visiting the show were harmed in the incident," the statement said.

"Today" show host Matt Lauer explained to viewers at one point that the show was brought inside the studio because of "an incident" on the plaza. He said a man tried to harm himself with a knife but was taken into custody and the plaza was secure.

NBC News said in a statement: "We have strict security protocols in place to protect visitors to the Today show and those procedures were followed and effective." □

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US House votes to resume deporting immigrants

DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican-controlled House voted Thursday to resume the deportation of hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought illegally to the United States as children, the first immigration-related vote in either chamber of Congress this year and a measure of the daunting challenge facing supporters of a sweeping overhaul of existing law on the subject.

The party-line vote of 224-201 was aimed at blocking implementation of President Barack Obama's 2012 election-year order called the DREAM Act to stop deportations of many individuals who could benefit from it. Democrats on the House floor reacted with boos when the provision was added to a routine spending bill for the Department of Homeland Security.

The vote was largely symbolic, since the administration has threatened to veto the overall legislation on budgetary grounds. It nevertheless stood as a stark warning from conservatives who dominate the ranks of the Republican House majority about attempts in the Senate to grant a chance

at citizenship to an estimated 11 million immigrants residing in the country illegally.

And the White House reacted sharply, saying the House-passed measure would affect "Dreamers" who are "productive members of society who were brought here as young

action. "Bipartisan support for my amendment is the first test of the 113th Congress in the House of Representatives on immigration. My amendment blocks many of the provisions that are mirrored in the Senate's 'Gang of Eight' bill. If this position holds, no amnesty will reach the President's

borders are secure against future illegal immigration. The measure was drafted by a bipartisan group of eight senators, then approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee last month on a vote of 13-8. It also creates a new low-skilled guest-worker program, expands the number of visas available for high-tech industry workers and reorders the system for legal immigration that has been in place for decades. Debate is expected to consume weeks on the Senate floor as lawmakers of differing views try to change it more to their liking. Notably, Sen.

Marco Rubio, a Florida Republican who was part of the group that drafted the legislation and is a potential presidential candidate in 2016, is saying he wants changes before he will support it on final passage. His office did not respond to a request for reaction to the House vote.

In the House, 221 Republicans and three Democrats voted for King's proposal, while 195 Democrats and six Republicans opposed it. "I can't believe they just did that," said Sen. Dick Durbin, a Democrat and a leading supporter of the DREAM Act. □



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio, second from left, walks to a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, June 6, 2013. At the news conference Boehner answered questions from reporters on topics ranging from monitoring of phone records to immigration reform.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

children, grew up in our communities, and became American in every way but on paper."

Rep. Steve King, a Republican, said in a statement that the vote prohibits the administration "from implementing executive amnesty" without congressional

desk," he said.

The vote took place as Senate leaders set Friday for the opening of debate on White House-backed legislation that would create a chance at citizenship for those in the country unlawfully, at the same time it takes steps to assure the

US residents sue NY Post over marathon photos

BOSTON (AP) — Two Moroccan-born U.S. residents have sued the New York Post, saying the newspaper falsely portrayed them as suspects in the deadly Boston Marathon bombings in part by featuring them on the front page under the headline "Bag Men."

The lawsuit says photographs and articles the Post published three days after the April bombings made it appear that law enforcement officials suspected 16-year-old Salaheddin Barhoum and 24-year-old Yassine Zaimi as the attack's perpetrators, before the FBI publicly identified two ethnic Chechen brothers as suspects.

But the Post still stands by its story, and says it never identified them as suspects.

The newspaper didn't use their names.

Lawyers for the two plaintiffs said Thursday the friends had hoped to run the race that day as unofficial entrants and had running gear in their bags.

The civil action says the Post's headline implied they had bombs in their bags and accuses the newspaper of libel, negligent infliction of emotional distress and privacy invasion. The claim, filed Wednesday in Boston, seeks unspecified monetary damages.

A Post spokeswoman referred questions about the lawsuit Thursday to a statement the newspaper's editor made in April.

"The image was emailed to law enforcement agencies yesterday afternoon seek-

ing information about these men, as our story reported. We did not identify them as suspects," New York Post editor-in-chief Col Allan's statement said at the time. A copy of the April 18 front page, which is included as a lawsuit exhibit, shows the publication also included a line in smaller print on its cover saying there was no direct evidence linking the two males to the crime but that authorities wanted to identify them.

But Barhoum's attorney Max Stern said Thursday that the plaintiffs were "collateral damage" in the newspaper's rush to scoop the competition.

The lawsuit said the photos came from one or more social media websites after users began discussion

groups dedicated to finding the bombers by scouring finish line photos.

The claim said the plaintiffs saw their photos on the Internet in connection with the bombing and voluntarily went to local police before investigators told them early on April 18 they weren't suspects.

But that day, the Post hit the streets with them on the cover.

Barhoum previously told The Associated Press he was scared to go to school and thinks some people will always blame him for the bombings. His father told the AP in April that he moved his family to the United States five years ago and worried after the Post story that someone would shoot his son. □

Philadelphia:

Search halted in building collapse; 6 final death toll

KATHY MATHESON

KEITH COLLINS

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The search for survivors of a U.S. building collapse that killed six neared an end Thursday, several hours after a woman was found alive in the rubble. No one else was thought to be inside. A building under demolition in one of the country's largest cities, Philadelphia, collapsed onto a neighboring thrift store Wednesday, injuring at least 14 people. The 61-year-old woman who was pulled from the debris early Thursday, nearly 13 hours later, was hospitalized in critical condition. Battalion fire chief Charles Lupre said there were no reports of anyone missing.

It was unclear what role the demolition work might have played in the collapse, but the accident raised questions about how closely the location on one of the city's signature boulevards was being monitored, particularly amid word of the demolition contractor's many legal and financial troubles. For weeks, people working nearby had watched with growing concern as a crew took down the vacant four-story building at the edge of downtown.

A roofer atop another building didn't think the operation looked safe. A pair of window washers across the street spotted an unbraced section of wall and predicted among themselves the whole building would simply fall.

On Wednesday, the building's unstable shell collapsed into a massive heap of bricks and splintered wood, taking part of the thrift store with it.

Officials said the demolition contractor was Griffin Campbell Construction. Records show that Campbell was charged in 2005 with dealing crack cocaine near a playground. The charges were dismissed after prosecutors misplaced evidence. □

US Financial Front:

US regains wealth from recession, but not equally

B. CONDON
C. S. RUGABER

AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — America as a whole has regained all the household

according to calculations by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Affluent households have benefited most because most of the recovered wealth has

assets like homes, stocks and bank accounts minus debts like mortgages and credit cards.

For America as a whole, higher home values and

stock prices have helped create a "wealth effect." This occurs when rising wealth gives Americans the confidence to spend more. The economy benefits because consumers drive about 70 percent of U.S. economic growth.

National home prices have been rising steadily since last summer, though they remain about 30 percent below their 2006 peak. Stocks have more than doubled since they bottomed in 2009, and stock averages hit record highs last month.

The Fed's low-interest rate policies have been intended to support both the housing and stock markets. The Fed's policies have helped keep mortgage rates near record lows to encourage home purchases. They've also pushed bond yields fell so low that many Americans have

shifted money out of bonds and into stocks. The resulting higher stock prices have helped boost household wealth.

But the distribution of the wealth has been uneven. Such wealth disparities mean "a smaller fraction of the population is near the average," says Dana Saporita, an economist at Credit Suisse.

Over the past five years, inflation has eroded about 10 percent of America's regained wealth. And the number of households has increased 3.8 million to 115 million from the third quarter of 2007 through the end of last year. So the regained wealth is now divided more broadly.

Rising stock prices accounted for nearly two-thirds of the rebound in wealth through the end of 2012, the St. Louis Fed report estimates. □



A man walks past a greeting cards display case in a market in Baltimore. America as a whole has regained all the household wealth it lost to the Great Recession and then some, thanks to higher stock and home prices.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

wealth it lost to the Great Recession and then some, thanks to higher stock and home prices.

The average household still has a long way to go.

U.S. household wealth jumped \$3 trillion to \$70 trillion in the January-March quarter this year, the Federal Reserve said Thursday. That topped the previous peak of \$68 trillion in the third quarter of 2007, just before the recession began.

Yet because of inflation and a rising population, the average household has recovered only about 63 percent of the wealth it lost,

come from higher stock prices. The wealthiest 10 percent of Americans own about 80 percent of stocks. The recession cost Americans \$15.6 trillion in wealth. Average household wealth, adjusted for inflation, was \$539,500 at the end of last year, according to the St. Louis Fed. Yet most households own less than the average, which is skewed by how much wealth belongs to the most affluent.

"Most families have recovered much less than the average amount," the St. Louis Fed report says.

Household wealth, or net worth, reflects the value of



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Thousands at Istanbul airport for Erdogan arrival

ELENA BECATOROS

SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Thousands of people thronged Istanbul's airport to cheer the return of the country's prime minister early Friday, the first extensive public show of support for him since anti-government protests erupted last week. Recep Tayyip Erdogan was returning from a four-day trip to north Africa after protests spiraled into dozens of cities around the country. Speaking before leaving Tunisia to fly back to Istanbul, Erdogan attempted a balancing act. He appeared to soften his tone in an effort not to inflame protesters who see him as increasingly autocratic, while not conceding enough to appear weak to the base that has helped him win three landslide elections.

About 10,000 supporters swarmed the airport for his arrival, chanting "We are with you, Erdogan." Hundreds marched among the cars of traffic-clogged streets towards the airport, waving Turkish flags and chanting "Istanbul don't sleep, defend your leader."

Erdogan's reaction will be decisive in determining whether the demonstrations fizzle out or rage on.

So far, a police officer and two protesters have died and thousands have been injured in nearly a week of clashes with the police.

Though he was greeted warmly at the airport, his comments don't appear to have swayed many of the thousands of protesters who thronged central Istanbul's Taksim Square for a sixth day Thursday. More than 10,000 others filled a busy street in a middle class area of Ankara.

"I do not believe his sincerity," said protester Hazer Berk Buyukturca.

Turkey's main stock market revealed the fears that Erdogan's comments would do little to defuse the protesters, with the general price index plunging by 8 percent after his comments on concerns that continuing unrest would hit the country's economy.

In his comments in Tunisia,

Erdogan acknowledged that some Turks were involved in the protests out of

But they were not soft enough," said Sukru Kucuk-sahin, columnist and politi-

tensity forever."

The protests started last week over objections to Erdogan's plan to uproot the square's Gezi Park to make way for a replica Ottoman barracks and shopping mall. Police's extensive use of tear gas and water cannons outraged many and sent thousands flooding into the square to support what had, until then, been a small protest.

Over the past week the demonstrations have spread to 78 cities, growing into public venting of what protesters perceive to be Erdogan's increasing arrogance. That includes attempts to impose what many say are restrictive mores on their personal lives, such as how many children to have or whether to drink alcohol.

Erdogan rejects the claims, saying he is a servant of the people. □



Tunisian Prime Minister Ali Larayed, 2nd right, greets his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan, facing camera left, at the Airport of Tunis Carthage, Tunis.

(AP Photo/Hassene Dridi)

environmental concerns, and said he had "love and respect" for them.

"His messages were a lot softer than when he left.

cal commentator for Huriyet Newspaper. "On the other hand, I don't think that the demonstrations will continue with such in-

Israeli military plans social media clampdown

MAX J. ROSENTHAL

JERUSALEM (AP)

— Some Israeli soldiers will soon be unfriending Facebook following a new crackdown on social media use, a move that will limit or ban outright use of the networks by soldiers in classified units. The move comes days after a group of female Israeli soldiers posing for photos wearing nothing but un-

derwear and combat gear surfaced on Facebook, prompting widespread media coverage.

It was the latest in a number of embarrassing social media incidents that the Israeli military has endured over the past few years. Israel's military said that the planned restrictions weren't related to the photos. "These restrictions stem

from information security concerns," said a military spokesman. Issues of morality or decorum were "not addressed by this specific order."

The plan's draft creates three categories for social media use among Israeli soldiers.

Members of the most secretive units would not be allowed to have social media accounts, soldiers in less classified units would be banned from posting pictures of themselves on base or in uniform, and those serving in standard units would face no restrictions at all.

It was not clear when the restrictions would be placed, how they would be enforced, or what punishments would be meted

out for violating them.

In 2010, the military announced a blanket ban on social media use among soldiers while on base. That policy also took effect shortly after a social media incident, in which video of an Israeli soldier dancing suggestively around a blindfolded Palestinian woman was posted on YouTube.

The military also cited security in imposing that ban.

It is unclear if the ban is still technically in effect. If so, it is widely ignored by Israeli soldiers.

The military spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations, said commanders currently have the discretion to set social media rules for their units. □



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Floodwaters surge into Dresden, northern Germany

DOROTHEE THIESING

Associated Press

DRESDEN, Germany (AP) —

The surging Elbe River crested Thursday in the eastern German city of Dresden, sparing the historic city center but engulfing wide areas of the Saxony capital.

Residents and emergency crews had worked through the night to fight the floods in Dresden. The German military and the national disaster team sent more support in a frantic effort to sandbag levees and riverbanks as floodwaters that have claimed 16 lives since last week surged north.

"Everybody's afraid but the people are simply fantastic and sticking together," said Dresden resident Silvia Fuhrmann, who brought food and drinks to those building sandbag barriers. The Elbe hit 8.76 meters (28 feet, 9 inches) around mid-

day — well above its regular level of two meters (6 1/2 feet). Still, that was not high enough to damage city's famous opera, cathedral and other buildings in its historic city center, which was devastated in a flood in 2002.

Germany has 60,000 local emergency personnel and aid workers, as well as 25,000 federal disaster responders and 16,000 soldiers now fighting the floods.

Farther downstream, the town of Lauenburg — just southwest of Hamburg — evacuated 150 houses along the Elbe, n-tv news reported, as the floodwaters roared toward the North Sea.

In the south, the Bavarian city of Deggendorf was hit by a third levee break on Thursday, with floods gushing into neighborhoods. Scores of homes remained



German Chancellor Angela Merkel steps on a sand bag to speak with soldiers, sitting on sandbags, in Bitterfeld, Thursday, June 6, 2013. At right Saxony-Anhalt governor Reiner Haselhoff. (AP Photo/Markus Schreiber)

underwater and authorities warned that a dam was still in danger of bursting.

"It's indescribably bad," Bavarian governor Horst Seehofer said upon visiting the area. "It's beyond

comparison."

In Halle, some 30,000 residents were urged to evacuate as the Saale river reached its highest level in 400 years.

In nearby Bitterfeld, mean-

while, authorities were trying to find ways to lower waters threatening the city, after blowing open two levees failed to lessen the pressure on flood defenses. Chancellor Angela Merkel, on a visit to Bitterfeld, promised swift help to those hit by the floods.

"I think you can rely on everything humanly possible being done," she said after meeting soldiers working to pile up vast walls of sandbags. The Institute for Economic Research, a private think tank based in Cologne, has estimated that the floods could cost over €6 billion (\$7.9 billion) in Germany alone. Many Germans have been taking to social media websites such as Facebook and Twitter to offer assistance, from helping fill sandbags to caring for pets whose owners had to leave their homes due to the floods. □

Abbas swears in academic, political newbie as PM

M. DARAGHMEH

Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) —

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Thursday swore in a new government headed by a politically inexperienced university dean, in an apparent attempt to consolidate power.

The outgoing prime minister, political independent Salam Fayyad, had often clashed with Abbas but enjoyed the backing of the West because of his successful cleanup of public finances in the West Bank. Fayyad resigned in April, after months of labor unrest triggered by a deepening financial crisis in the Palestinian Authority, the self-rule government that administers parts of the West Bank. His six-year term irritated many key figures in Abbas' Fatah movement who felt one of their own should be prime minister and repeatedly lobbied Abbas to fire Fayyad. The new prime minister, Rami Hamdallah, is close to Fatah and is expected to carry out Abbas' instructions. Hamdallah, an English professor, served as

dean of An Najah University in the city of Nablus for the past 15 years and as secretary general of the Palestinian Central Elections Commission since 2002.

Hamdallah was given two deputies, including one for economic affairs, apparently to make up for his lack of experience.

The new government is beginning its term at a time of entrenched political malaise in the West Bank. Palestinians last had a general election in 2006, when Fatah rival Hamas won control of parliament. After the parliament election, failed attempts by Hamas and Fatah to share power led to violent clashes that ended with the Hamas takeover of Gaza in 2007.

After the political split of 2007, Abbas dismissed a Hamas-led government and appointed Fayyad prime minister of a West Bank-based government, while Hamas installed a separate administration in Gaza.

By installing a new government Thursday, Abbas affirmed that prospects of reconciliation with Hamas

remain slim. Under a previous unity deal, Abbas was to form an interim government of technocrats from

Gaza and the West Bank that would prepare for new elections, but the two sides failed to agree on the

details, including how long such a government should be in place before elections are held. □

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Afghan governor: Airstrike kills 3; NATO denies

RAHIM FAIEZ

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) —

The governor of an eastern province in Afghanistan alleged on Thursday that an overnight NATO airstrike killed three civilians and wounded seven there, a claim the US-led coalition flatly denied.

Sayed Fazelullah Wahidi claimed the three civilians — two women and a child — died in the airstrike allegedly carried out by a drone in the Noorgaram area of the Dara-i Peach district.

"This claim is not true," the U.S.-led International Assistance Force said. "ISAF takes allegations of civilian casualties very seriously. We do not have any operational reporting that

supports the ... allegations within the Kunar province." Wahidi did not say how he came to the conclusion that the three were killed by an airstrike or that it was carried out by a drone. He only said the Afghans were killed and wounded "as a result of a drone attack by the foreign forces."

"We are investigating how this incident took place and why civilians became the victims of this attack," he said. Kunar is on the border with Pakistan and has seen heavy fighting between Afghan government forces and insurgents. Parts of the province have also come under shelling from Pakistan, where insurgents retain safe havens in the tribal areas.

Afghanistan has also blamed Pakistani military forces of shelling parts of the province near the fron-

Civilian casualties have been a contentious issue in Afghanistan, with the insurgents blamed for the over-

tack around the country to test the Afghan security forces, now that international troops have stepped back in preparation for the withdrawal of most of them next year. In just the past two weeks of the escalating spring offensive, violence has killed or wounded more than 412 Afghan civilians, 24 percent more than the same time last year, the U.N. said Monday. It blamed insurgents for 84 percent of those deaths.

Earlier Thursday, a civilian was killed when a bomb exploded inside a restaurant in the northern city of Sari Pul. Another 13 people were wounded, said provincial police chief Gen. Abdul Raouf Taj.

In western Farah province, government spokesman Abdul Rahman Zhawandai said insurgents gunned down two tribal elders as they drove into the provincial capital. □



Afghans look at a destroyed vehicle after it was hit by a roadside bomb in the Alingar district of Laghman province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan. The governor of an eastern province in Afghanistan alleged on Thursday that an overnight NATO airstrike killed three civilians and wounded seven there, a claim the US-led coalition flatly denied.

(AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)

tier. Islamabad says Pakistani militants are based in the area and stage cross-border attacks.

whelming majority of them. They have soared in recent weeks as the Taliban and other insurgents at-

Nicaragua:

Chinese company to get canal concession

MANAGUA, Nicaragua

(AP) — A concession to build a canal across Nicaragua linking the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea will be awarded to a Chinese company, the National Assembly president said this week.

Legislative leader Rene Nunez said the company will use funds from investors around the world to build the \$40 billion project. Nunez talked to local media after two bills for streamlining the process of building the canal and assessing its environmental impact were presented to lawmakers.

Opposition congressman Luis Callejas said lawmakers have been asked to

discuss the bills Friday. The government plans to grant the Chinese company a concession for 100 years, he said. "I do not understand what the rush is," Callejas said. "It's such a sensitive topic that it should be consulted with the population." Nunez said the project is very important for Nicaragua and that's why is being pursued with urgency. He wouldn't identify the company or discuss the concession.

President Daniel Ortega said recently that the canal would not go along the San Juan River as it had been planned. He said it would be built farther north, through the waters of Lake Nicaragua.

Ortega said the canal would be an alternative to the Panama Canal and would generate jobs for impoverished Nicaragua and other Central American countries.

The Panama Canal, which opened in 1914 and is too narrow for today's biggest cargo ships, is being expanded by a consortium led by Spanish construction firm Sacyr-Vallehermoso SA. Panama's canal authority is spending \$5.25 billion to widen the 50-mile (80-kilometer) canal by 2014. The consortium also includes Italy's Impregilo SpA, Belgian contractor Jan de Nul and Panama's Constructora Urbana SA, among others. □

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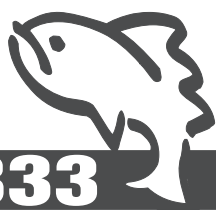


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Russia arrests suspect in foiled terror attacks

MAX SEDDON

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's counter-terrorism agency says special forces arrested a man Thursday who is accused of planning a terrorist attack on Moscow that the agency foiled last month.

The National Anti-Terrorism Committee said in a statement that troops from the Federal Security Service, or FSB, arrested Yulai Davletbayev in suburban Moscow Thursday morning.

Russian TV showed images of special forces arresting a man identified as Davletbayev. It was not clear when or where the operation took place.

Two suspected militants from the group Davletbayev is accused of leading were killed and a third, Robert Amerkhanov was arrested in an FSB operation in May, the committee said. Amerkhanov told the FSB that Davletbayev had directed the planned attacks, the committee said. The men were Russian citizens trained in terrorist camps on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, the committee added.

Davletbayev worked under the guise of a taxi driver while scouting densely populated places where the highest number possible of people would suffer, the committee said.

According to the committee, the men had been ordered by a group known as the Islamic Party of Turkistan, based in the Afghan-Pakistani border zone, to commit a series of attacks in Moscow and then hide in Afghanistan. □

Syrian rebel offensive in Golan jolts Israel

J. FEDERMAN

S. SCHEINER

Associated Press

QUNEITRA, Golan Heights (AP) — Syrian rebels briefly seized control of a border crossing along the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights on Thursday, prompting the withdrawal of a major Austrian peacekeeping contingent and heightening fears in Israel that it could soon be dragged into the neighboring country's civil war.

From the Israeli side of the Golan, Syrian tanks and armored vehicles could be seen across the border. Large explosions could be heard throughout the day, and thick smoke and flames rose from the area. Israeli TV stations showed images of Israeli tourists flocking to the Golan to look across the frontier and gawk at the fighting.

Israeli troops along the border were on high alert, although the military said no special actions had been taken in response to the escalation. By nightfall, the situation appeared to be quieting down. Israel's deputy defense minister, Danny Danon, said forces remained on high alert, but no special actions had been taken. "We are following very carefully what's happening in Syria," Danon told The Associated Press. "We will do whatever is necessary to protect the interests of Israel."

Israel fears that Islamic militants who have joined the rebel ranks in trying to oust President Bashar Assad will turn their guns toward Israel if they topple the Syrian leader. Islamic groups are believed to be active in the fighting in the Golan area. Israel has also expressed concerns that Assad's sophisticated weapons,

could slip into the hands of hostile groups, including Assad's ally, Hezbollah.

The Jewish state has kept a wary eye on the fighting

ment troops retook it. The international peacekeepers who maintain a 40-year-old truce receive most of their supplies through that



next door since the conflict erupted in March 2011 and in recent months has been bolstering its forces in the area and reinforcing a fence along the frontier.

The rebels overran the border position near the abandoned town of Quneitra early Thursday, holding their positions for several hours before Syrian govern-

ment troops retook it.

Fierce gunbattles forced peacekeepers to seek shelter in a nearby base, and the Philippine military said one of its men serving in the force was wounded in the leg when a mortar or artillery shell struck the area. U.N. diplomats said an Indian peacekeeper also was injured.

In Vienna, Austrian leaders said the fighting made it necessary to withdraw their troops.

Defense Minister Gerhard Klug said he expected the withdrawal to be done within two to four weeks, but it is possible to complete it "within a few hours" if new violence threatened the soldiers' security.

"For the first time, it was not possible for the Syrian government to guarantee proper support of the U.N.," he said. The decision dealt a heavy blow to the 911-member U.N. force, which includes the 377 Austrian peacekeepers as well as 341 from the Philippines and 193 from India. Croatia withdrew its contingent in March amid fears they would be targeted.

Israel and Syria agreed to creation of the U.N. Disengagement Observer Force after Syria launched military action in 1973 in a failed effort to retake the Golan, which Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war. □

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Nigeria: Challenges at frontline of extremist fight

JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

MARTE, Nigeria (AP) — Islamist extremists raised their black flag over this village in the remote plains of northeast Nigeria, setting fire to a church, shutting down the schools and bombing the police station in a violent overthrow of government control.

Just as quickly as they rose out of the desert scrub several months ago, however, they recently disappeared

tary successes may carry the price of years of troop commitments in this region of crumbling roads and derelict power lines to hold territory against a now-unseen adversary.

"One year, two years, three years — that's what we signed up for," Lt. Col. Olufemi Olorunyomi said.

The new military offensive comes after President Goodluck Jonathan declared a state of emergency May 14 in Adamawa,

and mass arrests, while never offering clear explanations of its own losses.

On Wednesday, the military flew foreign and local journalists from Nigeria's capital, Abuja, to Maiduguri in Borno state as part of a tour of one battleground area. The tour clearly offered the message Nigeria's military wants publicized: Soldiers routed the extremists.

The chief of defense staff "was interested in the



Women wait to draw water from a well in Kerinowa, Nigeria, on Wednesday, June 5, 2013. Nigeria's military took journalists on a tour Wednesday of one of the areas where it fought Islamic extremists as part of a new offensive targeting radicals. While Nigeria's military has had success taking back territory, its soldiers will likely need to remain in the region for years to make sure extremists who slipped away don't attack again.

(AP Photo/Jon Gambrell)

as Nigeria's military regained control of this area as part of a new offensive. As attack helicopters hovered overhead and tanks hid among the scrawny trees, military commanders told journalists touring the region Wednesday that they had struck a decisive blow against radicals who want to impose strict Islamic law over this multiethnic nation of more than 160 million people.

Yet behind the smiles and speeches, commanders acknowledged fighters with the extremist network Boko Haram likely escaped their dragnet,

burning equipment they couldn't carry while still maintaining an arsenal of heavy weaponry. That means Nigeria's quick mili-

Borno and Yobe states — a territory of some 155,000 square kilometers (60,000 square miles) of the Sahel bordering Cameroon, Chad and Niger.

In a nationally televised speech, Jonathan acknowledged that the nation had lost control of some villages and towns to extremist fighters already responsible for more than 1,600 killings since 2010 alone, according to an Associated Press count.

Military reinforcements arrived to a northeast already heavily occupied with soldiers, but now with the authority to arrest anyone at will and occupy any building believed to harbor extremists. For weeks, the military issued statements outlining quick advances

whole world knowing what was going on, and we have nothing to hide," said Gen. Jah Ewansiha, the commanding officer of the joint police and military task force in the northeast. However, commanders ordered journalists not to "clandestinely interview" any soldiers and tried to limit questions to officers who spoke along the way.

Officers displayed out of a cache of weapons they said they seized from Boko Haram fighters, ranging from locally made pistols that fire a single shotgun shell to truck-mounted anti-aircraft guns firing 12.7 mm rounds.

Long belts of heavy ammunition mixed with rounds for Kalashnikov assault rifles. □

Mexican army rescues 165 abductees

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican soldiers have rescued 165 people kidnapped by a drug cartel and held for as long as three weeks in a one-story home alongside the U.S. border.

National security spokesman Eduardo Sanchez says 150 victims were U.S.-bound migrants from Central America. Fourteen were Mexicans and one was from India. He said Thursday at a news conference that a 20-year-old man found guarding the house was detained.

Sanchez said the army rescued the group on Tuesday in Gustavo Diaz Ordaz, a town across the border from McAllen, Texas. He gave no information on which cartel was suspected.

The Zetas cartel is behind most abduction of migrants along the U.S.-Mexico border. In 2010, the cartel was blamed for killing 72 migrants in northern Mexico. □

Inflation at 17-year high in Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Inflation in Venezuela reached 6.1 percent last month, the oil-rich nation's highest monthly inflation in 17 years.

Venezuela's Central Bank released the figure Thursday, citing mostly rising food prices. Currency and price controls are blamed for shortages of basics including flour, sugar, cooking oil and toilet paper.

Currency controls have helped make the black market dollar worth more than four times the official dollar, which is virtually impossible to obtain legally.

Many economists believe socialist-run Venezuela is in a recession as rising domestic demand for gasoline crimps oil exports.

Venezuela's annual inflation rate was 35.2 percent through May — 12.6 percentage points higher than last year. The previous monthly high of 7.1 percent was in June 1996.

The western state of Zulia plans to start limited food rationing next week. □

Brazil billionaire son convicted in death

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The son of Brazilian billionaire Eike Batista was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death of a cyclist, the Rio de Janeiro state judiciary said Thursday.

Batista's 21-year-old son Thor hit the cyclist last year while driving his Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren at night through a low-income suburb in Rio de Janeiro.

Wanderson dos Santos was riding his bike home from work and died instantly.

Judge Daniela Barbosa Assumpcao de Souza sentenced Batista to two years of community service, the two-year suspension of his driver's license and a one million real (\$500,000) fine. The sentence was handed down Wednesday night and can be appealed.

Eike Batista is chairman of an industrial conglomerate active in the energy, mining and logistics fields.

Judge Souza ruled that over two years Thor Batista must work one hour a day for a yet-to-be defined organization, "preferably one involved in the recovery of traffic accident victims," according to a statement from the judiciary.

The \$500,000 fine will be used to pay for goods the organization needs to help accident victims, such as hospital and physical rehabilitation products, the statement said. Batista's attorney Ary Bergher told the O Globo newspaper that the judge punished the younger Batista "only because he is rich. The constitution says everyone is equal under the law."

A person answering the phone at Bergher's office said the lawyer was not immediately available for comment. □



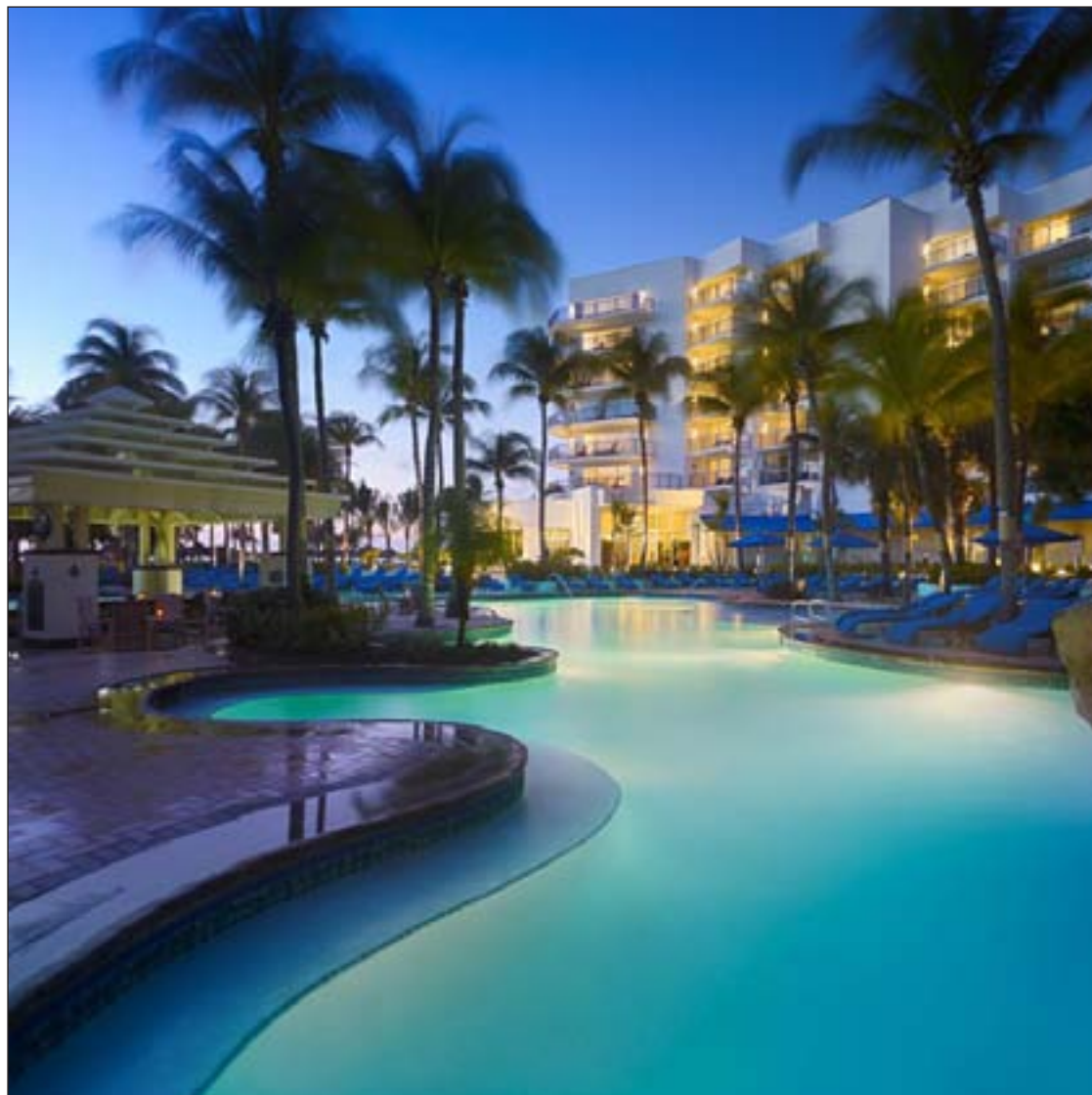
Aruba Marriott Wins 2012 “Hotel Of The Year” Award!



PALM BEACH, ARUBA (June 6, 2013) - Recently, the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino has won the prestigious ‘Hotel of the Year’ award for the great results obtained in 2012. This recognition puts the hotel as the best of the best in the Southern Region within the Marriott Hotels, Resorts and Suites brand.

The Hotel of the Year award is designed to recognize the hotel that best executes on the brand promise while driving overall balanced score card. In order to become Hotel of the Year, the criteria display excellence in the following categories: Guest Overall Satisfaction, Market Share Excellence, Financial Excellence and Engagement Leadership Excellence.

Craig Smith, President of Marriott's Caribbean and Latin America region presented the Award: “For the recipient of this award, when you hear the words “Hit out of the Park”, you



think of this team. 2012 was the year when this highly engaged dynamic team put their heads together and decided to show the region what it means to run an effective business.”

The resort focused on the key factors providing excellent guest service and understanding the importance of customer overall satisfaction, numbers that increased overall in 2012 enormously.

Additionally the resort gained great financial results and market share.

“I am honored to announce this news to our associates.

Because of their hard work and dedication to our guests, the resort received this prestigious Award,” said General Manager Tom Calame of the Aruba Marriott Resort.

The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino thanks all its wonderful associates for their hard work and team spirit. Masha pabien! □

At the Playa Linda:

Ingrid Todd honored for 30 years in Housekeeping



PALM BEACH -- After 30 years at the Playa Linda Beach Resort, Ingrid Todd continues to make an important contribution as its executive housekeeper. Her successful career is reflected not only the high marks her department continues to garner, but also in the amount of respect and affection demonstrated by her colleagues during two recent celebrations held in her honor. She was treated to a dinner at Barefoot restaurant, by the resort, as well as to a party held at the Playa Linda, organized

by her co-workers. Ingrid found her career path early, starting as a housekeeper for a short time at the Divi before beginning her long history with the Playa Linda. Her diligence on the job brought her recognition and later promotions to supervisor, and finally to her current position, leading the resort's largest department as its executive housekeeper. "I have seen the resort through five GMs," she comments of the different changes she has witnessed. "But the feeling

of family at the Playa Linda remains the same." General Manager Jan van Nes also remarked on her many years with the resort, attributing her contributions as part of the shared success of the Playa Linda. "She has seen our resort grow from one phase, in 1983, with 78 units, to its current 214 units. She was there for every step it took to bring the Playa Linda to where it is today as one of the most popular timeshare resorts in Aruba and the Caribbean." In thanking her for

her many years of service, he noted that her consistency and calm, in all circumstances, has proven a great benefit to advancing Playa Linda goals. Director of Domestic Facilities Remo Kock also remarked on Ingrid's ability to lead by example. "I am always impressed how well she is able to get her point across and get things done. She can be very blunt, but the room keepers know how hard she works, and how hard she will fight for them in ensuring they have all the tools necessary to do their job effectively and safely." Her final celebration at the resort's Bandera's cafeteria was a joyous event, complete with mariachi. Ingrid received gifts from the resort as well as flow-

ers personally presented to her on behalf of the Board of Directors, but her most touching gift may have been the one she received during the celebration among colleagues. Her fellow housekeepers chipped in to provide her a customized "djuco" nut jewelry piece. Remo donated the djuco, which was further polished to a beautiful deep red wine color, and decorated with a filigree of gold and fashioned into a necklace. After enjoying high praise and well-deserved congratulations during the recent celebrations, Ingrid is now back on the job. Years from retirement age, she demonstrates a tireless attitude, viewing her 30 years as just another milestone in a successful career. □

Europcar's exciting Win Me promotion creating a buzz!

ORANJESTAD - Europcar's WIN ME Promotion is creating a sensational buzz that is grabbing everyone's attention. Bellmen, concierges and front desk agents are asking how to participate.

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Every rental earns you a ticket! More rentals, more chances to WIN!! Europcar is the world's leading 'leisure car rental' company with presence in approximately 150 countries worldwide, 230 airport stations in Europe, 10,000 stations worldwide since the alliance with Enterprise Holdings, with 6,600 employees & a fleet of well over 193,000 vehicles. Europcar Aruba has re-



cently rolled out its new fleet of seventy 2013 models, all Hyundai, offering clients a range of choices from the economy i10, the compact Accent, the sporty i30, the midsize Elantra and the SUV Tucson. In addition to the favorable daily rates, Europcar offers flexible long term rates for corporations and individuals as well.

For additional information e-mail us at info@europcar-aruba.com or call us at (297) 583-0200/ (297)582-9290[fax]. □

Beauty On The Beach

Zarha y Freya

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Team Aruba carries 'winning high' into ADRL U.S. drags

UNION, S.C. June --, 2013: Team Aruba's capture of their first ADRL Extreme Pro Stock victory warranted victory celebrations from Cordova, Ill. to Union, S.C. to south of the equator where the country of Aruba gave perhaps the loudest victory shout yet. The Aruba.com / Alltel Wireless team was greeted at the airport by family, friends, racers, fans and media. TV and radio stations were even live on air for their triumphant arrival. The team, whose humble demeanor belies their success, was blown away by this reception and is still wrapping their heads around the glory of their long awaited victory. "I could not believe the amount of people who have and are still congratulating us on our recent win," told driver Trevor Eman. "The response received from all of Team Aruba's fans after winning the race has been phenomenal. Our home country gave us an incredible welcome.

Aruba was so proud of our achievement. It is truly a wonderful feeling when you are supported by your country. I cannot thank Aruba enough for standing behind us the way they do. "Needless to say, we are still feeling that winning high. The support has overwhelmed us and boosted our confidence even more. It's wonderful that we are going into Virginia as points leaders. Our goal for the weekend will be to leave there as points leaders. We certainly have a team capable of doing this. All the guys on the team are on their game and together we have a good fast race car to compete with." The ADRL U.S. Drags VI will be contested June 8-9 at Virginia Motorsports Park. Trevor Eman does take the points lead into this event, 99 points ahead of John Pluchino and 202 points ahead of Pete Berner, who are number two and three respectively. "Now that we've had a taste

of victory we are even more excited to compete in Extreme Pro Stock with the world's best Mountain Motor teams. We're also very excited that bangshift.

can't make it to Virginia. This allows people from all over the world to keep up with ADRL Drag Racing and provides tremendous exposure for our sponsors.

com/teamarubaracing and on Twitter @TeamArubaRacing. Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your



com will be streaming this event live. Fans can watch us live by logging onto bangshift or by following the links on ADRL.us. We love the fact that our fans will be able to watch us in real time, even if they

We're very excited to have the live feed available and hope all of our fans will tune in to cheer us on!" Tune into the U.S. Drags this weekend via ADRL.us. Keep up with Team Aruba at www.facebook.

comments to cheer on Team Aruba! For more on your Aruba vacation visit www.Aruba.com and www.Destination-Magazines.com. Visit www.AlltelWireless.com for their latest deals. □

Biblioteca Nacional Aruba to host fun Reading Festival!

ORANJESTAD/SAN NICOLAS - Biblioteca Nacional Aruba presents a Reading festival both in Oranjestad and San Nicolas. This festival will take place on Wednesday and Thursday this coming week and is for people who like stories and have a passion for reading or want to be inspired. The program in the evening is from 7 o'clock till 9 o'clock. Wednesday in the library in Oranjestad and Thursday evening in the li-



brary of San Nicolas. On the program are readers, young and old, who want to inspire the audience to read their favorite story by reading a fragment of the story. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy listening. Children are invited to participate in a special pro-

gram in the afternoon on Wednesday in the library in Oranjestad from 3 o'clock till 5 o'clock with storytelling and other activities. There is also a 2nd hand book market from 3 in the afternoon till 8 o'clock. We hope you will visit and bring a friend. □



Welcome Back Cool Couple Carter and Sarah!



PALM BEACH - Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is adding another cool couple to their long list of loyal guests. This week special guests are Carter 'Kowalski' Mejia and Sarah Cherry from Scottsdale, Arizona. The long trip from Arizona to Aruba has been more than worth it, for the last three years, they say. Enjoying the island's beautiful beaches, stunning sunsets and friendly people year after year. Their choice of stay is usually Radisson or Holiday Inn. Over the last three years they have so many great memories of Bugaloe, most of which are hazy at best. They simply just don't know what memory to choose! 'I'll ever forget our first time walking down the pier and meeting Mr. Bos, it's because of him we can't choose just a single fun memory. Good times, Great people!' Well, experiencing Bugaloe and ending the night with bar stools on their heads, with the crew (that they can remember) was surely a fun time! Carter and Sarah love the Garlic Shrimps and Red Snapper, savoring it till the very last piece! Of course, enjoying this fest together with favorite beer Amstel Bright makes one great meal. To conclude Carter and Sarah would just like to mention 'The staff make Bugaloe a truly magical spot, One Happy Island is an understatement, the people here are beyond friendly!' The Bugaloe Crew would like to thank the cool couple for the great and fun times together, and look forward for more bar stools on heads together soon! ☐

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Rain postpones 1st round of LPGA Championship



JOHN KEKIS
AP Sports Writer
PITTSFORD, New York (AP) — Steady rain punctuated by heavy downpours forced the postponement of the first round of the LPGA Champi-

onship on Thursday. The LPGA's second major of the year will begin Friday morning, the second round will be staged on Saturday, and the players will attempt to complete 36 holes on Sun-

day, the LPGA said. Two weeks ago at the Bahamas LPGA Classic, the course was closed for two days because of severe flooding, and when the tournament finally got under way it was shortened to 12 holes.□



Serena Williams of the U.S. celebrates defeating Italy's Sara Errani in two sets 6-0, 6-1, in their semifinal match at the French Open tennis tournament, at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Thursday June 6, 2013.

Associated Press

French Open final set: Sharapova vs Williams

STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer
PARIS (AP) — As Maria Sharapova celebrated her return to the French Open final, she let loose one last scream — this time a happy one. Serena Williams won more quietly and quickly, and she'll play Sharapova for the title Saturday. Sharapova, the defending champion, overcame 11 double-faults to win a semifinal shriekfest against Victoria Azarenka, 6-1, 2-6, 6-4. Williams then advanced to her first French Open final since 2002 by dispatching Sara Errani 6-0, 6-1 in 46 minutes of astounding power and precision.

Continued on Page 21



BEAR TRAPPED

Bruins OT win puts Penguins at risk of extinction

Boston Bruins defenseman Adam McQuaid (54) checks Pittsburgh Penguins left wing Brenden Morrow (10) down to the ice during the first period in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals in the NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoffs, in Boston on Wednesday, June 5, 2013.

Associated Press
Page 19

Beaten by Gatlin, Bolt shows signs of slowing down

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — After five years of dominating sprinting, Usain Bolt is showing signs of slowing down. The Jamaican lost by one-hundredth of a second Thursday to American sprinter Justin Gatlin, who timed 9.94 seconds in the 100 meters at the Golden Gala meet. It was Bolt's first significant loss since his false-start disqualification at the 2011 world championships in South Korea. But he also struggled in his first 100 this year, winning a photo finish in 10.09 in the Cayman Islands a month ago while dealing with a hamstring injury. This is normally the time Bolt starts to leave his rivals behind as he revs up for the year's biggest event. This season, it's the world championships in Moscow in August. However, the always cool Jamaican is not worried. "For me it is just going through the season," said Bolt, the world-record holder and six-time Olympic champion. "Put things together for the world championships. The season is still very early." He did not blame the hamstring this time.



Justin Gatlin, of the United States, left, competes alongside Michael Rodgers, of the United States, center, and Usain Bolt, of Jamaica, on his way to win the men's 100m event at the Golden Gala IAAF athletic meeting, at Rome's Olympic stadium, Thursday, June 6, 2013.

Associated Press

"During the race I didn't feel it all," he said. "Afterwards it was sore but that's expected. But during the race it was fine." Gatlin, who has won all five of his 100-meter races this year and had been doing some pre-race trash talking, was restrained in his celebration, just clapping his hands rapidly. "This year I just want to be able to put together a bet-

ter race, give him some competition when he's at his top form, to make it a more epic race," Gatlin said. "He's a legend, he's done great things and I just want to go out there and just fight to the end." Bolt briefly covered his face with his hands after the race, and then saluted the crowd. After things settled down, Bolt went over and shook Gatlin's

hand and congratulated him. "I came into this race trying to figure out where I was," Bolt added. "Now I just need to go back and watch the tape and see what went wrong and what I need to work on and compete better next time. ... The fact that I lost this race is a good thing." Bolt struggled in the first 50 meters despite his strong start. He started to gain ground on Gatlin near the finish but would have needed a bit more track to overtake him. "That was ridiculous — a perfect start and then I just cropped off," he said. "I think it was this perfect start that threw my game off. I have to do more strength work, I guess. I think it needs just some time to get it all back together. At the end it was just not me." On a delightful spring evening before a Stadio Olimpico crowd of 52,305, Bolt was second in 9.95 and Jimmy Vicaut of France third in 10.02. "At least I got under 10 seconds," Bolt said. "My legs did not feel the energy. At 50 meters I had some problems, but the rest of the race was not bad. "My fifth step I kind of stumbled a bit," Bolt added. "The last 50 where I thought I would

be much better I wasn't there, so I guess I just need to go home and figure out what I need to do and get it right, because normally my last 50 of the race is my best part. I need to put it together. I have enough time. I'm not worried." Kim Collins, the 37-year-old from St. Kitts and Nevis, appeared to have a slight lead on Gatlin at the 50-meter mark, but he finished fifth in 10.07. Michael Rodgers of the United States was fourth in 10.04. "When you have someone like Kim in the race he's going to dominate the first 50 meters. You can't get flustered by it. You got to stay in your race pattern," Gatlin said. "The end of the race was more of a blur. I just made sure I kept putting my feet down and that was really what mattered to me." Bolt also was beaten by Tyson Gay in August 2010 in Stockholm. "I don't keep count of how many people have beaten Bolt. But I can say it's an honor to be able to race against him," Gatlin said. "He's been an inspiration for the sport. He's brought so much to the sport that it has never had before, so he's inspired me to be a better runner and a better entertainer for the fans." This was Gatlin's third Diamond League win in the 100 this year. He ran 9.97 seconds in Doha, Qatar, and a wind-aided 9.88 in Eugene, Oregon, last weekend. The wind this time was well within the limit. Gatlin took bronze at last year's London Olympics to cap his comeback from a four-year doping ban, having won the 100 at the 2004 Athens Games. "Last year I was a really great starter," Gatlin said. "This year I've been working on my conditioning, trying to get my start back and make sure the middle of my race is stronger. Each race is important." Bolt will next run the 200 at the next Diamond League meet in Oslo, Norway, next week before he returns home for the Jamaican championships. □

Woods tops Forbes list of money makers

The Associated Press Tiger Woods is back on top of Forbes' list of highest-paid athletes. The golfer spent 11 straight years at No. 1 on the magazine's list before falling to third in 2012. The magazine put him back in the top spot after he made \$78.1 million over the last year from prize money, endorsements, appearance fees and golf course design work. Woods has enjoyed a resurgence in his play that has earned him over \$13.1 million the past 12 months — double his total from the previous year. Tennis star Roger Federer is second at \$71.5 million

while Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers is third at \$61.9 million. LeBron James comes in fourth with \$59.8 million and Saints' quarterback Drew Brees rounds out the top five at \$51 million. Last year's highest-paid athlete, Floyd Mayweather, is 14th. David Beckham was No. 8 overall and the highest-ranked footballer at \$47.2 million. New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez was tops among the 27 baseball players on the list and No. 18 overall with \$30.3 million. Two women, both tennis players, made the list. Ma-



Tiger Woods tees off on the 11th hole during the final round of the Memorial golf tournament Sunday, June 2, 2013, in Dublin, Ohio. Associated Press

ria Sharapova (\$29 million) came in at No. 22, and Li Na (\$18.2 million) was 85th. □

Bruins beat Penguins in double overtime, lead 3-0

BOSTON (AP) — Boston's Patrice Bergeron scored 15:19 into the second overtime to give the Bruins a 2-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Wednesday and a 3-0 series lead in the NHL Eastern Conference finals.

The victory put Boston in control of the best-of-seven series and a chance to advance to the Stanley Cup finals when it hosts Game 4 on Friday.

"It was a battle. They played hard all night," Bergeron said. "It was a tough game, we found a way."

David Krejci also scored for Boston in the first period. He leads the playoffs in scoring with nine goals and 12 assists.

Chris Kunitz scored Pittsburgh's only goal in the second.

That left it 1-1 after two periods, and it stayed that way through two more. But 4:41

before the second overtime would expire, Brad Marchand grabbed the puck along the left-wing boards and centered it, where Bergeron redirected it past Tomas Vokoun and into the net.

"That was a great play by March," Bergeron said. "I just was trying to get open going to the net, and he found my stick."

That set off a celebration in Boston — the first for the Bruins at home this series after they won the first two games of the series in Pittsburgh 3-0 and 6-1. It is the first time all season that Pittsburgh has lost three consecutive games.

The good news for the Penguins: the last of three teams to blow a 3-0 lead in an NHL playoff series was Boston, which lost four in a row to Philadelphia in the 2010 Eastern Conference semifinals.

After two Boston blowouts,

the Penguins matched the Bruins and even outshot them 39-25 in regulation — including a third period in which Pittsburgh held a 14-4 advantage despite two Boston power plays. The Bruins didn't muster a shot in the final 7½ minutes of regulation.

But the Bruins had the better chances in overtime, including Nathan Horton's breakaway that Vokoun turned aside just 2:21 in, and another shot by Horton that went off the right post with 12:25 on the clock.

Pittsburgh forced Boston goalie Tuuka Rask to make a save with 5 minutes left in the first OT, when Craig Adams tried to poke home a rebound.

"That surprise me? No," Bergeron said of Rask's play. "He is doing everything now. He is awesome." The Bruins scored just 102 seconds into the game when Krejci circled around



Boston Bruins left wing Milan Lucic (17) raises his hand as he celebrates a goal by David Krejci during the first period against the Pittsburgh Penguins in Game 3 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoffs Eastern Conference finals, in Boston on Wednesday, June 5, 2013. Penguins defenseman Kris Letang (58) and goalie Tomas Vokoun are behind Lucic. Associated Press

the net and took a slap shot that caromed in off Pittsburgh defenseman Matt Niskanen.

But the Penguins tied it in the second when Kunitz

one-timed a pass from Paul Martin over Rask's right shoulder.

Pittsburgh went 0-for-6 on power plays. Boston was 0-for-5. □

George Karl out as coach of Nuggets

PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writer

DENVER (AP) — George Karl is following general manager Masai Ujiri out of the Denver Nuggets.

Less than a month after winning the NBA's coach of the year award, Karl's tenure with the Nuggets is over after 8½ seasons.

His departure comes shortly after Ujiri, the league's executive of the year, left to become general manager of the Toronto Raptors.

"So, we lost a GM now and a coach, what's next?" tweeted Nuggets big man Kenneth Faried.

Karl had a year left on his contract and was aiming for a new deal.

The Clippers, Nets and 76ers also have head coaching vacancies and the Memphis Grizzlies have given coach Lionel Hollins permission to speak with other teams.

"We appreciate everything he did to keep us

among the top teams in the Western Conference,"

for him as a person and coach." Karl guided the third-youngest team in the NBA to the third-best record in the Western Conference with a franchise-record 57 wins, but the Nuggets were bounced from the first round of the playoffs for the fourth straight season. The 62-year-old Karl led the Nuggets to nine straight playoff appearances and a 423-257 mark in the regular season. Those 423 wins rank second in team history behind Doug Moe (432). A two-time cancer survivor, Karl changed his coaching style after returning from throat cancer in 2010. He delegated more duties at practice, relying on his assistant coaches to do much of the teaching. □



In this May 8, 2013 file photo, Denver Nuggets head coach George Karl smiles after receiving the Red Auerback trophy for being named the NBA Coach of the Year during a news conference in Denver.

Associated Press



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NL Capsules

Gonzalez hits 3 HRs, Rockies pound Reds 12-4

CINCINNATI (AP) — Carlos Gonzalez tied his career high with three of Colorado's six homers, and Troy Tulowitzki went 5 for 5 with a pair of homers Wednesday night, powering the Rockies to a 12-4 victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

The Rockies hadn't hit six homers in a game since they had that many against the Marlins on July 4, 2008, according to STATS LLC.

Gonzalez got Colorado's splurge going with a solo shot and a three-run drive off Pedro Villarreal (0-1), who was roughed up by one of the NL's top offenses in his first big league start. Tulowitzki tied his career high with five hits, including a two-run homer and a solo shot.

Todd Helton also homered as the Rockies piled up a season-high 20 hits, the most allowed by Cincinnati since 2009. The Reds came in with the second-best earned run average in the NL.

Jon Garland (4-6) gave up four runs — all in the first —

and lasted six innings.

The Rockies took the last two games of their series, ending a streak of six straight losses against Cincinnati.

DIAMONDBACKS 10, CARDINALS 3

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Paul Goldschmidt hit his second grand slam in five days for Arizona, and Wade Miley bounced back from his two worst outings of the season. Arizona has won four of five. St. Louis, with the best record in the majors, dropped back-to-back games for the first time since April 28-29.

Goldschmidt became the first Arizona player with two slams on the same road trip. He hit one in a 12-4 win at the Chicago Cubs on Saturday.

Miley (4-5) gave up three runs and 11 hits over 6 2-3 innings. He had given up seven earned runs in each of his previous two starts.

St. Louis' Joe Kelly (0-3), making his first start of the season, gave up one earned run in 5 2-3 innings.



Colorado Rockies' Carlos Gonzalez follows through on a three-run home run off Cincinnati Reds starting pitcher Pedro Villarreal in the fourth inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, June 5, 2013, in Cincinnati. It was the second home run of the game for Gonzalez.

Associated Press

Matt Carpenter had four hits for the Cardinals and pushed his career-best hitting streak to 14 games.

BRAVES 5, PIRATES 0

ATLANTA (AP) — Julio Teheran carried a no-hitter into the eighth inning, leading Atlanta to the win.

Pinch hitter Brandon Inge singled to left with two outs in the eighth for Pittsburgh's only hit of the game. Teheran then received an ovation from Braves fans, who also cheered after the inning ended on Starling Marte's popup.

Teheran (4-2) set a career high with 11 strikeouts in eight innings in the Braves' fifth straight win, including a sweep of the three-game series. David Carpenter pitched a perfect ninth.

Evan Gattis and Gerald Laird hit back-to-back homers in the sixth.

Pittsburgh's Wandy Rodriguez (6-4) left with tightness in his left forearm after recording only one out in the first inning. He gave up two hits and a run and hit Freddie Freeman with his 14th and final pitch.

The Pirates have lost three straight and five of six.

PADRES 6, DODGERS 2

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jason Marquis took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and the Padres rebounded after dropping the first two games of the series.

Marquis (7-2) had his no-hitter broken up when Skip Schumaker doubled to deep center field with two outs in the sixth. Adrian Gonzalez followed with a RBI single that trimmed San Diego's lead to 3-1. □

AL Capsules

Chicago snaps skid, beat Seattle 7-5 in 16

The Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — After each team scored five runs in the 14th inning to break open a scoreless tie, Alejandro De Aza and Alex Rios hit RBI singles in the 16th and the Chicago White Sox stopped an eight-game losing streak by beating Seattle 7-5 Wednesday.

According to the Mariners, with information from Elias Sports Bureau, it was the first game in major league history when each team scored five or more runs in the game when it was 0-0 through the ninth.

Addison Reed (2-0) got the win despite allowing Kyle

Seager's tying grand slam with two outs in the 14th. Seager became the first player to hit a tying slam in extra innings.

Hector Noesi (0-1) took the loss.

ASTROS 11, ORIOLES 7

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros hit six home runs and won for the seventh time in eight games, beating Baltimore.

Jason Castro, Carlos Pena and J.D. Martinez each had two-run homers, and Jose Altuve, Matt Dominguez and Marwin Gonzalez added solo shots as the Astros came one home run shy of a single-game fran-



Chicago White Sox players share congratulations as they walk off the field in view of the scoreboard showing their 16-inning baseball game against the Seattle Mariners on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, in Seattle. The White Sox won 7-5.

Associated Press

chise record for home runs. The Astros tagged Freddy Garcia (2-3) for four homers and reached reliever Steve Johnson for two in the fourth inning.

Dallas Keuchel (3-2) got the win.

J.J. Hardy and Matt Wieters homered for the Orioles.

ROYALS 4, TWINS 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) —

Jeremy Guthrie lasted six shaky innings and the Kansas City bullpen held off Minnesota Twins the rest of the way, wrapping up a victory that ended the Royals' franchise-record 11-game home losing streak.

The Twins jumped out to a first-inning lead off Guthrie (6-3), but the right-hander escaped a bases-loaded

jam with the help of a nice catch by first baseman Eric Hosmer to prevent any additional damage.

Greg Holland put the first two runners aboard in the ninth before striking out Justin Morneau, Ryan Doumit and Chris Parmelee for his 10th save of the season.

P.J. Walters (2-1) took the loss. □

French Open

Continued from Page 17

Williams' win was the most lopsided women's semifinal at Roland Garros since 1984, when Chris Evert beat Camille Benjamin 6-0, 6-0. Sharapova beat Errani in the final last year to complete a career Grand Slam, but she faces a

sounded as if they were pushing a stalled Peugeot across lanes of traffic in the Arc de Triomphe. "Come on, Monica," a spectator yelled at Sharapova, referring to one of the game's great grunTERS, Monica Seles. The aggressive swings resulted in a seesaw semifinal. Sharapova whacked 12 aces but was erratic

screamed through a grin. "To come back as the defending champion, it's extremely special to get back on that stage where it comes down to the last two players of the tournament," Sharapova said. She improved her record at Roland Garros to 43-9, best among active women. That includes victories in her past 13 French Open

Williams said. "So I told myself, 'Serena, be focused today.'" The result extended her career-best winning streak to 30 consecutive matches. She improved to 20-3 in major semifinals, and she's 6-0 against Errani. "What she did today is unbelievable," Errani said. "She's very strong. She's an unbelievable player. She had great day." Sharapova, who lost her opening set in the quarterfinals 6-0, started slowly again against Azarenka.

Sharapova double-faulted twice in the first game and was broken at love. But this time she quickly righted herself, temporarily finding the range with her serve and cracking ferocious returns. She won 22 of the final 26 points in the first set and closed it out with an ace. "The serve is definitely something that you never know what to expect," Azarenka said. Then Sharapova began to misfire while Azarenka found her timing. □



Russia's Maria Sharapova serves to Belarus' Victoria Azarenka during their semifinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium Thursday, June 6, 2013 in Paris. Associated Press

tougher test this time. She's 2-13 against Williams, who has been on a mission after more than a decade of disappointment in Paris. "Obviously whatever I did in the past hasn't worked," Sharapova said. "So I'll have to try to do something different and hopefully it will." The top-ranked Williams, a 15-time Grand Slam champion, won her only Roland Garros title 11 years ago by beating her sister Venus in the final. "I'm very happy to be back in the French Open final 11 years later," Williams told the crowd in French. "I'm still here 11 years later. It's so wonderful for me." While Williams easily won her semifinal, Sharapova advanced past Azarenka with a clamor. The two most notorious grunTERS in tennis wailed on nearly every swing, matching pitch and volume as they swapped powerful shots from the baseline. They

with her second serve, and her groundstrokes were also unpredictable. She needed five match points to seal the victory. Serving for the victory for the second time, she held at love and finished with an ace. "Those last few points are the toughest," Sharapova said. I'm so happy that I regrouped and came out at 5-4 and served it out really well." Following a 35-minute rain delay before the third set, Sharapova hit four double-faults in a single game, the last of them on break point, to make it 2-all. She struggled again with her serve at 5-2, losing a tense, sloppy 12-minute game when she squandered four match points and double-faulted on the final two points. She was steadier at the end, however, and after accepting a cursory congratulatory handshake from Azarenka, Sharapova

matches. Azarenka, a two-time Australian Open champion, was playing in her first Roland Garros semifinal. She still believes she can win a clay-court Grand Slam title. "Oh, sure," she said. "Not this year." In the men's semifinals Friday, seven-time champion Rafael Nadal plays No. 1 Novak Djokovic for the 35th time, and Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga faces Spaniard David Ferrer. Williams took control against Errani by winning 26 of 34 points in the opening set. The match was 37 minutes old before Errani won a game, and the crowd responded with a roar as the Italian raised her arms in mock jubilation. Williams was undeterred and raced to the finish line. She won 28 of 33 points on her serve and had a 40-2 advantage in winners while losing only 16 points. "I had to win this match,"

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JUNE 6 - 12

NEW THIS WEEK!

AFTER EARTH

MON - THURS 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20
FRI 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20 | 11:40
SAT 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20

THE PURGE

MON - THURS 5:30 | 7:35 | 9:40
FRI 5:30 | 7:35 | 9:40 | 11:50
SAT 3:25 | 5:30 | 7:35 | 9:40 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 3:25 | 5:30 | 7:35 | 9:40

ALSO SHOWING!

THE HANGOVER PART III

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30
FRI 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:50
SAT 1:50 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:50
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30

NOW YOU SEE ME

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00
FRI 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00 | 11:30
SAT 2:00 | 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00

VIN DIESEL | PAUL WALKER

FAST & FURIOUS 6

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - FRI 6:30 | 9:20
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:30 | 9:20

MON - THURS 5:20 | 8:10
FRI 5:20 | 8:10 | 11:20
SAT 2:30 | 5:20 | 8:10 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 5:20 | 8:10

AMANDA SEYFRIED | JASON SUDERIKS

epic

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - THURS 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
FRI 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00 | 11:20
SAT 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00

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Road to Fitness: Numbers can indicate condition

Marjie Gilliam

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Q: Although I consider myself healthy, I took your advice and got a checkup before starting my new exercise program. I was surprised to hear that my BMI was higher than it should be, and that this might influence my health in other ways. I'm interested in knowing more. Can you help?

A: Body mass index (BMI), developed by the National Institute of Health, estimates percentage of body fat using height and weight. A BMI of 25 or high-

eral, total cholesterol numbers should be below 200, with 240 considered high cholesterol, and anything between 200-239 considered borderline.

Triglycerides above 200 are considered high and may need treatment. An LDL above 130-159 is considered borderline high, 160-189 high, and 190 and above is considered very high. If you are concerned about your cholesterol levels, talk to your doctor about your numbers and how to get them into a healthy range.

Waist circumference: One



If your lifestyle habits are healthy, chances are good that your numbers will be too.

(Handout Photo)

er is thought to increase risk of type 2 diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease. If your BMI is 25 or higher, take a look at lifestyle habits such as exercise and diet. Other important numbers to keep an eye on: Blood pressure: This is a measure of the pressure of the blood against the walls of the arteries. An optimal blood pressure reading for adults is below 120 over 80, while a reading of 140 over 90 or greater is considered elevated (high). Cholesterol levels: Cholesterol is a fatty substance that builds in arteries, leading to heart disease. Your doctor can check your HDL, LDL and triglycerides, and total cholesterol levels. In gen-

if the very best ways to keep track of body fat levels is by simply taking your waistline measurement on a regular basis. A waist size of 40 inches or more for men and 35 inches or more for women is considered high risk. Weight: I advise using the scale as only a general guideline, because it does not tell you anything about your actual health or body fat percentage. For example, I have worked with clients who are slightly overweight yet have better numbers than someone who is underweight. Fluid levels can also cause body weight to fluctuate, for some this can be as many as 3 to 5 pounds in a day. □

Polio discovered in sewage from Israel

DONALD G. McNEIL Jr
© 2013 New York Times

The polio virus has been found in a sewage sample from Israel for the first time since 2002, the World Health Organization announced this week. But no children or adults newly paralyzed by polio have been identified in Israel or in Gaza or the West Bank. The sample was from Rahat, a city in the Negev Desert near the Egyptian border that has 53,000 residents, primarily Bedouins. There has not been a case of polio in Israel since 1988. The virus was last found in sewage samples in 1991 and 2002.

Because most Israelis and Palestinians are routinely immunized against polio, it is unlikely the virus will spread further, said Dr.

Bruce Aylward, director of the WHO's polio campaign. "Things usually dead-end there because immunity is so high," he said.

Only preliminary sequencing of the virus, found on April 9, has been done, so it is not yet clear where it came from, but it is of the same strain as a virus found in January in sewage samples from Cairo, which itself was related to a strain circulating in Pakistan and Afghanistan, Aylward said. "This shows how it can jump from place to place," Aylward said. "If there's any sense of complacency about the endgame plan, I hope the world has gotten over it."

Polio is very close to eradication; only 223 cases of paralysis occurred in the world last year.

However, every year sees outbreaks in countries far from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria, where polio is still endemic, and sometimes the virus is found in sewage even when no cases of paralysis are found. All those outbreaks have been contained by vaccinating millions of people nearby. The discovery of the virus in Egypt earlier this year was the first time it has been seen there since 2004; no cases of paralysis were found. Egypt vaccinated millions of residents after the virus was found in January, and sewage samples have been negative since then, Aylward said. "But samples are only useful when they're positive, not when they're negative," he said, "so we can't rule out that it's there." □

UK to help smokers with nicotine products

MARIA CHENG
AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — Britain's independent health watchdog says for people who can't quit smoking cold turkey, it's OK to use nicotine products to help them cut down.

For years, Britain has encouraged people who wanted to kick the habit to simply stop, with various supports available, including counseling and nicotine products. But nicotine replacement therapies were not recommended for people who still wanted to cut down but not quit immediately.

But in advice issued this week, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence said people unable to give up cigarettes in a single attempt should switch to licensed nicotine products, including gum, sprays and patches to at least reduce how much they smoke. The advice doesn't recommend e-cigarettes, which aren't yet regulated in Britain. Recommendations made by NICE are typically adopted by the government. "People smoke because of the nicotine, but they die because of the tar in tobacco," said Mike Kelly,

director of NICE. When people smoke fewer cigarettes without using nicotine replacement thera-

products can be safely used with cigarettes for at least five years. NICE advised heavy smokers that



Britain's independent health watchdog says it's OK to use alternate nicotine products to help smokers cut down, (Handout Photo)

pies, they typically inhale more deeply and ingest more tar, he said. By using nicotine products such as gum or patches, they can smoke less without any acute withdrawal symptoms. Kelly said smokers were still encouraged to quit entirely but that this new advice gives them another option.

According to NICE's assessment of past research, nicotine replacement

they may need more than one product if they do try to quit.

The agency also said nicotine replacement therapies can be used for as long as they curb the urge to smoke and in the long term to prevent relapses. About one in five people in the U.K. smoke, and tobacco is estimated to cost the health system nearly >3 billion (\$4.6 billion) every year. □

Long-awaited keyboard BlackBerrys hit U.S. stores

ROB GILLIES

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — BlackBerry with physical keyboards are now available in the U.S., months after the touch-screen versions went on sale.

T-Mobile USA began selling the BlackBerry Q10 on Wednesday. It has Research In Motion Ltd.'s new BlackBerry 10 operating system, which addresses shortcomings that allowed the iPhone and Android devices to surpass the once-pioneering BlackBerry in sales and prestige.

Verizon, AT&T and Sprint also have plans to sell the Q10 in the U.S. Verizon Wireless started taking orders last week and says it will ship by Thursday.

AT&T started taking orders Wednesday. Neither Verizon nor AT&T Inc. has said when it will have the phones in stores. The last of the major national carriers, Sprint Nextel Corp., has said it will carry the phone this summer.

RIM's chief operating officer, Kristian Tear, said that he doesn't regret RIM's de-

cision to release a touch version first, even though it was new territory for the company. Many long-time BlackBerry users prefer a physical keyboard, which has been RIM's strength.

"It's obviously a larger market size, the full touch," he said in an interview. "I think it was right to do that No. 1. To get Q10 out now, not too long after, is a good second step."

The BlackBerry, pioneered in 1999, had been the dominant smartphone for on-the-go business people and other consumers before the iPhone debuted in 2007 and showed that phones can handle much more than email and phone calls. RIM faced numerous delays modernizing its operating system with the BlackBerry 10. During that time, it had to cut more than 5,000 jobs and saw shareholder wealth decline by more than \$70 billion.

RIM's touch-only devices in the past haven't been successful. Meanwhile, its rivals have largely abandoned efforts at making smart-

phones with physical keyboards. That's an area RIM long has been strong in.

Tear said loyal BlackBerry users are eager to upgrade to the Q10, and he expects RIM to win back people who had left for rival devices.

Colin Gillis, an analyst at BGC Partners, said the keyboard version has a much greater chance at success than the touch version. He calls the Z10 just another slab of glass that doesn't differentiate much what rivals offer. He said RIM's base has always favored the keyboard.

"That's why I always found it kind of odd that they didn't lead with the strength," Gillis said.

Nonetheless, RIM surprised Wall Street in March by returning to profitability and shipping about 1 million touch-screen BlackBerry Z10 phones in the quarter that ended March 2. It will take several quarters, though, to know whether the Canadian company is on a path toward a successful turnaround.

Jefferies analyst Peter



In this Tuesday, April 23, 2013 file photo, a BlackBerry Q10 smartphone is displayed in Toronto. Modern BlackBerrys with physical keyboards are now available in the U.S., months after the touch-screen versions went on sale. T-Mobile USA began selling the BlackBerry Q10 on Wednesday, June 5, 2013.

Misek said it was smart to start with touch to give the Z10 a chance. Otherwise, he said, people might not have tried it and just gone to the Q10 and its keyboard.

Misek, however, has said that retail checks in the U.K. and Canada show that demand is higher for the Q10 than the Z10. The Q10 has been available in Canada, the U.K. and other coun-

tries since early May. The Z10 has been available in Canada and the U.K. for several months and in the U.S. since late March. RIM CEO Thorsten Heins has said U.S. carrier testing of the new BlackBerry 10 software is the reason for the delayed launch in the U.S. RIM's stock increased 9 cents, or less than 1 percent, to close Wednesday at \$13.63. □



Gov. Pat McCrory, center, and Lenovo President for North America Jay Parker shake hands as the world's second-largest PC vendor hosts a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony at its U.S. personal computer production facility on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, in Whitsett, N.C.

Associated Press

EMERY P. DALESIO

AP Business Writer

RALEIGH, North Carolina

(AP) — Three business reasons — quicker, closer and custom — prompted computer maker Lenovo Group to open its first U.S. manufacturing operation in North Carolina instead of low-cost foreign locations

like Mexico or China, its North American president said.

Lenovo expects to finish hiring 115 production workers by the end of the month at the manufacturing operation that opened in January inside an existing distribution center in Whitsett. The company on

Lenovo marks first U.S. manufacturing plant

Wednesday celebrated the U.S. production line — small compared to its sites elsewhere.

"The reason that we're doing this and have made this decision is because we believe it can bring us some advantages in this marketplace," Lenovo North America President Jay Parker said in an interview. Lenovo, the world's second-largest PC maker behind Hewlett-Packard, is based in China but has executive headquarters in Morrisville, where about 2,000 work. The company bought IBM's PC business there in 2005.

Lenovo's site along Interstate 85, a major East Coast transportation corridor, is about 40 miles (65 kilometers) from the personal computer factory that Dell

Inc. opened in 2005. The plant's workforce peaked at 1,400 employees but it closed in 2010 after Dell recognized customers were turning away from desktop computers for more mobile devices.

The addition of production to an existing Lenovo distribution and returns center has been called an example of onshoring or reshoring — a move by manufacturers to reverse the decades-long trend of transferring production to low-cost countries overseas. Parker made it clear that Lenovo's North Carolina operation fills some important niches.

The Whitsett site's output of ThinkPad laptops, commercial desktop computers, and — by end of the year — tablets and servers

is expected to ramp up to several hundred thousand units a year, Parker said. The rest of the approximately 7 million Lenovo devices sold each year in the U.S. and Canada would continue to be shipped from factories in Mexico, China and elsewhere, he said.

U.S. production means faster product delivery for customers that demand it, Parker said. The new factory also allows Lenovo to wait until late in the production cycle before customizing devices, for example with cover etchings or tags that help companies and universities keep track of their property, he said. Governments and some other customers want or require products they buy to be built in the U.S.A., he said. □

Stock market ends choppy day with modest gains

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A bouncy ride on Wall Street ended with a modest gain Thursday.

The stock market broke a two-day losing streak as traders reacted to news from Europe and looked ahead to the government's monthly employment report.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended 80 points higher. The average of 30 big companies dropped as much as 116 points in the early afternoon after the European Central Bank's president, Mario Draghi, signaled that the bank wouldn't take more steps to shore up Europe's ailing economies.

Retail stocks mostly rose after several store chains reported higher sales for May. Costco gained \$1.92, or 1.8 percent, to \$111.09. Financial markets have turned volatile over the past two weeks as traders parse comments from Federal Reserve officials for hints about when the bank will cut back on its support for the economy. A batch of weak manufacturing reports has also heightened concerns about the economy's strength.

One concern for some investors is the recent rise in long-term interest rates. Those rates will likely climb further when the economy improves and the Fed scales down its monthly purchases of \$85 billion in bonds. Rates remain near historically low levels.

"As interest rates come back to more normal levels, it's probably going to cause volatility," said Tim Speiss, chairman of the personal wealth advisers practice at EisnerAmper. "But that should be viewed as healthy."

The Dow ended at 15,040.62, a gain of 0.5 percent. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 13.66 points to 1,622.56, a gain of 0.9 percent. The Nasdaq composite index rose 22.58 points to 3,424.05, a gain of 0.7 percent.

In Europe, government bond yields jumped and

stock indexes fell after the European Bank chief said the bank wouldn't take more action to prop up the region's economy.

The yield on Spain's 10-year government bond spiked to 4.65 percent from 4.41 percent as demand for the bonds dropped. Stock mar-



Trader Richard Cohen, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market broke a two-day losing streak Thursday June 6, 2013, as traders reacted to news from Europe and looked ahead to the government's monthly employment report.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

kets fell 2.6 percent in Italy, 1.2 percent in Germany and 1 percent in France. Gold jumped \$17.30 to \$1,415.80 an ounce. The price of crude oil crossed above \$95 per barrel fol-

lowing a report from the Energy Department that the country's oil supply shrank last week. Oil rose \$1.02 to \$94.76 a barrel. In the market for U.S. government bonds, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note edged down to 2.07 percent from 2.09 percent

the government reported a surge in hiring over the previous three months. Expectations that the Fed will ease back on its bond-buying sometime soon are prompting traders to sell bonds, pushing yields higher.

Early Thursday, the Labor Department said that the number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits fell by 11,000 last week to 346,000, a level that's consistent with steady job growth.

Speiss called the drop in claims, which tend to fluctuate sharply week to week, a "good sign." Speiss said it's far from certain that the government's monthly employment survey will give investors anything to cheer on Friday. Economists predict that employers added 170,000 jobs last month. A report that's much better or worse than expected can drive trading for weeks afterward.

Last month, for instance, news that the unemployment rate dropped to 7.5 percent, a four-year low, pushed the S&P 500 above 1,600 for the first time.

David Joy, chief market strategist at Ameriprise Financial, said Friday's re-

port is especially important for investors because the Fed has made it clear that the job market will determine whether the bank pulls back on or extends its bond-buying effort.

"We're in a battleground between what the Fed is going to do and what the economy is going to do, and there's no clear direction on either," Joy said.

Among other stocks making big moves:

— Chatter that PepsiCo may be interested in buying SodaStream sent the Israeli company's stock up 3 percent, even though PepsiCo called the speculation "totally untrue." SodaStream's stock gained \$1.89 to \$71.24.

— VeriFone Systems plunged 21 percent. After the market closed Wednesday, the provider of terminals for credit-card payments reported quarterly results that fell short of financial analysts' estimates. The lower results were a result of a charge for legal fees and sliding sales. VeriFone also forecast earnings of 20 cents in the current quarter, half of what analysts had forecast. The company's stock sank \$4.58 to \$17.37. □

GM CEO says dividend, share buyback possible

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors CEO Dan Akerson says the company's finances are sound enough to consider paying a dividend or even buying more stock from the U.S. government.

The CEO, in comments after GM's annual meeting Thursday, also said the company first has to keep investing in new vehicles and equipment.

GM cut its dividend in July of 2008, amid financial troubles that eventually landed it in bankruptcy protection. GM needed a \$49.5 billion government bailout in 2008 and 2009 to survive the financial crisis and the Great Recession. In exchange for the bailout, the government got

60.8 percent of GM's stock. The government has been shrinking its stake, and will reduce its holdings in GM to under 14 percent when it sells 30 million shares after the market closes Thursday.

After the sale, the Treasury Department will own 189.2 million shares, GM said in a regulatory filing Thursday. Akerson said that once the government's stake drops below 10 percent,



General Motors chairman and CEO Daniel Akerson speaks at the IHS CERAWEK energy conference Wednesday, March 6, 2013, in Houston.

(AP Photo/Pat Sullivan)

restrictions on the number of shares it can sell each quarter are lifted. That, he said, may open the door for GM to buy more shares and potentially get out from under government ownership. The government has said it intends to sell its entire stake in GM by April of 2014. As of May 10, the government had recouped about \$30.7 billion of the bailout money, leaving taxpayers were about \$18.8 billion in the hole. Pricing for Thursday's sale will be announced after the markets close. A United Auto Workers retiree health care trust fund also will sell 20 million shares on Thursday.

GM's shares sold for \$33 when they began publicly trading again in November 2010. □

Canada charges Nestle, Mars with chocolate fixing

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — The accused in a chocolate price-fixing case could face a bitter fate if convicted — millions of dollars in fines for the companies and potential jail time for the individuals.

Canada's Competition Bureau said Thursday it is laying criminal charges against Nestle SA's Canada arm, Mars Inc.'s Canada division and ITWAL Ltd., a network of independent wholesale distributors. Also charged are former Nestle Canada Inc. president Robert Leonidas; Sandra Martinez, former president of confectionery for Nestle Canada; and David Glenn Stevens, president and chief executive of ITWAL. Hershey Canada Inc. is also pleading guilty to one count of price fixing, subject to court approval. Hershey Co.'s Canada division cooperated with the investigation and the agency recommended that the company receive lenient treatment.

"We are fully committed to pursuing those who engage in egregious anti-competitive behavior that harms Canadian consumers," said interim competition commissioner John Pecman. "Price-fixing is a serious criminal offense and today's charges demonstrate the Competition Bureau's resolve to stop cartel activity in Canada." The bureau says it must not only prove competitors agreed to fix prices, but that the agreement would likely have "an undue economic effect" on the market.

In separate statements, both Nestle and Mars said they intend to "vigorously defend" themselves against the charges, which date back to 2007 and earlier. A statement from ITWAL was not immediately available.

The bureau found out about the alleged scheme through its immunity program, under which the first party to disclose an offense or provide evidence may receive immunity, provided it fully cooperates. □

AP survey:

Economists see no stock market bubble

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A debate is raging among investors and analysts: Has the Federal Reserve inflated a stock market bubble by driving interest rates to record lows?

The answer, according to economists surveyed by The Associated Press: No.

Three-quarters of the economists say stocks, which are at their lowest point in a month but are up 19 percent since November, aren't overvalued. Many point to strong corporate profits as justifying the surge in stock prices, which have more than doubled since bottoming in 2009.

The economists expect many consumers to respond to their increased stock wealth by spending more in coming months. Higher spending would help sustain and perhaps accelerate growth.

The economists think growth is slowing to around a 2 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter from a 2.4 percent rate last quarter. The key reasons: Federal spending cuts, higher taxes and economic weakness in Europe and elsewhere.

But they say U.S. economic growth should increase in the second half of this year and speed up next year. Besides the stock market gains, steady job growth and surging home prices will likely fuel more spending.

They forecast that growth will reach 2.8 percent in 2014 as hiring accelerates and consumer confidence — now at a five-year high — improves further. If they're accurate, that would be the fastest growth since 2005.

"A bubble is an extreme thing, when the market loses all contact with reality," says Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services. "I don't think we're near anything like that."

Most of the nearly three dozen economists surveyed by the AP say the Fed's policies have helped

boost stock prices. The Fed has been buying \$85 billion in bonds each month to try to keep loan costs at record lows and encourage borrowing and spending. The super-low rates have led some investors to shift money out of low-yielding bonds and savings accounts and into stocks, thereby boosting stock prices.

In recent weeks, stock and bond investors have been rattled by speculation that the Fed will start to scale back its bond purchases later this year. Investors

bubbles, stocks or other assets are significantly overvalued. Investors typically invent reasons to explain that fact away.

In the late 1990s, for example, "We were talking about 'the new economy,' 'this is all different now' and so on." But "people aren't saying that about stocks now," Webman says.

The AP survey collected the views of private, corporate and academic economists on a range of issues. Among their views:

— Housing will deliver the biggest boost to the U.S.

justed for inflation, grew at an average annual rate of 3.6 percent. Since the recession ended in 2009, it's grown at an average rate of just 2 percent. The job market would be considered healthy when unemployment falls between 5 percent and 6 percent. It's now 7.5 percent. On Friday, the government will issue the May jobs report. Employers are expected to have added 170,000 jobs. No change is expected in the unemployment rate.

— The world's biggest economic obstacle is deep



Most of the nearly three dozen economists surveyed by the AP say the Fed's policies have helped boost stock prices.

have pushed up long-term rates. Once the Fed acts, rates could rise further. Some investors would sell stocks and buy higher-yielding bonds. Stock prices could fall.

For now, broad measures of stock prices remain in line with historic norms, given the strength of company profits, the economists say. The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index, relative to expected corporate earnings, is only about half its level of late 1999. That was a few months before the dot-com frenzy fizzled and punctured a stock-market bubble.

Jerry Webman, chief economist at OppenheimerFunds, notes that in most

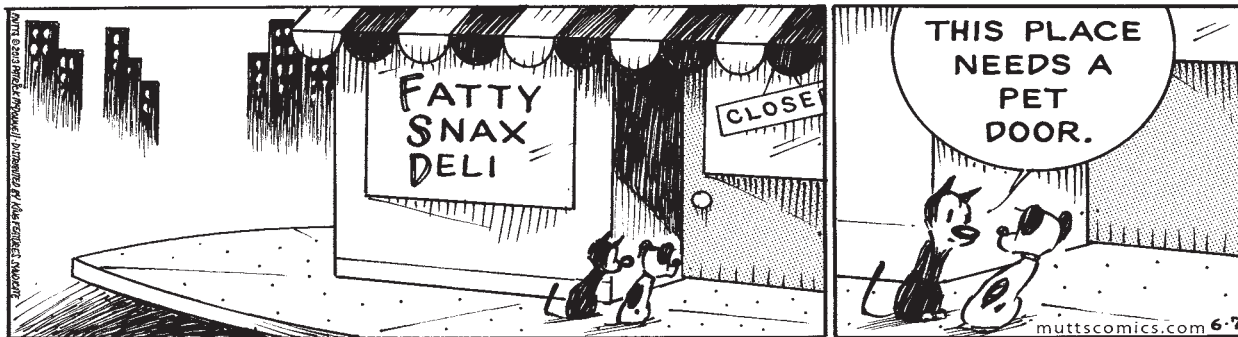
economy this year — more than will higher stock prices or the Fed's low-rate policies. Higher home values and sales and increased construction have helped restore household wealth, generated jobs, boosted spending on home furnishings and other goods and services and strengthened banks as mortgage defaults have declined. It's also a big reason pickup truck sales have jumped: Busier contractors and landscapers buy more trucks.

— U.S. consumers will step up spending once the job market returns to full health, though not as much as before the Great Recession. In the 10 years through 2007, consumer spending, ad-

spending cuts and shrinking economies among the 17 European countries that use the euro currency. Unemployment across the euro alliance hit a record 12.2 percent in April. The number of unemployed is on track to reach 20 million by year's end.

— The biggest threat to Americans retiring over the next 25 years is too little savings. This is a more significant factor than the likelihood of reduced Social Security benefits, high out-of-pocket costs for Medicare recipients or nursing home expenses. The stock market's gains, along with higher home prices, have helped create a "wealth effect." □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



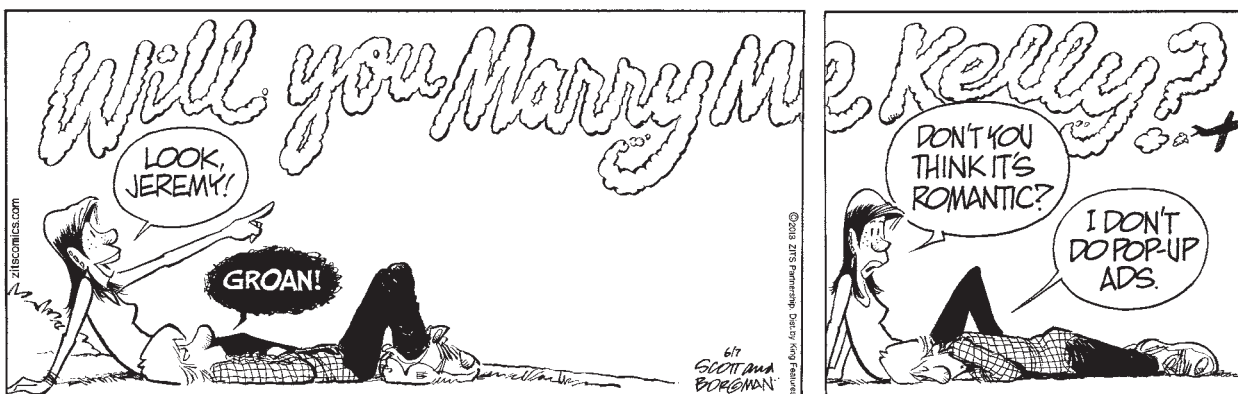
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			8		2			
	3			6			4	
		5				7		
6			1		9			4
	4						5	
2			7		8			3
		2				8		
	7			9			3	
			3		1			

Difficulty Level ★★☆☆

6/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	5	3	9	2	8	4	1	7
4	2	8	7	6	1	3	9	5
9	7	1	4	3	5	2	8	6
7	3	5	1	8	2	9	6	4
1	4	2	3	9	6	5	7	8
8	9	6	5	7	4	1	2	3
2	1	7	8	5	3	6	4	9
3	6	9	2	4	7	8	5	1
5	8	4	6	1	9	7	3	2

ACROSS

- 1 Store away
- 5 Street surfer
- 10 Sharpen; hone
- 14 Metal thread
- 15 Poet Dickinson
- 16 Ceremony
- 17 Related
- 18 Formal meeting
- 20 Sty resident
- 21 Diminish
- 22 Sworn statements
- 23 Frosting
- 25 Very spicy
- 26 Historical records
- 28 Shoves
- 31 Journal
- 32 ___ Ste. Marie
- 34 Jacuzzi
- 36 Wheel rod
- 37 Actress Mills
- 38 Pierce
- 39 Singer Tillis
- 40 Covered with fungus
- 41 Nutmeg or cinnamon
- 42 Energetic one
- 44 Destined for a sad fate
- 45 Storm center
- 46 ___ ray; devilfish
- 47 Bean used to make chocolate
- 50 Brooches
- 51 Afternoon hour
- 54 Exaggerating the value of
- 57 Like an even score
- 58 Apple pie à la

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
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31					32	33				34		35
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39				40					41			
	42		43					44				
47	48	49				50				51	52	53
54					55	56				57		
58					59					60		
61					62					63		

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/7/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

JAY		SPRAT		SOCK
ONES		CREDO		THAI
TEAL		RENAL		RIMS
		WHOLESOME		OOPS
		SOWS		RAN
SASHAY		BRA		GART
ALIEN		PRUNE		SEE
BIND		ROAST		SNIP
EVE		AERIE		SCENE
REWARDED		COARSE		
		DEC		GALL
GOYA		OFFENDING		
AGOG		ALLEN		NEAT
URGE		TEASE		GALA
LEIS		SAXES		REP

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6/7/13

- 3 At the start
- 4 Scalp cyst
- 5 Thin-shelled nuts
- 6 Surrounded by
- 7 Grape bearer
- 8 Leprechaun
- 9 Bread for a Reuben
- 10 December door decoration
- 11 ___ at; allude to
- 12 Engrave
- 13 Golf ball pegs
- 19 Rule the ___; be in charge
- 21 Tricky
- 24 Be concerned
- 25 Luau dance
- 26 Actor ___ West
- 27 Vetoed
- 28 Small & weak
- 29 Rough guess
- 30 Empty ___; vacuum
- 32 Fly alone
- 33 Most common contraction
- 35 In the sack

DOWN

- 1 Exchange
- 2 Kon-___; raft for Thor Heyerdahl

- 37 Roof for some sports stadiums
- 38 Blemish
- 40 City leader
- 41 Male children
- 43 Closer
- 44 Peril
- 46 Chop finely
- 47 Arrive
- 48 Declare openly
- 49 Relinquish
- 50 Half-quart
- 52 Unite metals by heating
- 53 Likelihood
- 55 Brewed drink
- 56 Light brown
- 57 Definite article

Film Review: 'Dirty Wars': From the blurred front lines

STEPHEN HOLDEN
© 2013 New York Times
The thesis of Richard Rowley's pessimistic, grimly outraged and utterly riveting documentary "Dirty Wars" is that America's largely clandestine war on terror is now globally entrenched. Far from ending, the film argues, the fight has spread and begun breeding an

pregnant women were among those killed in a night raid. One casualty was Mohammed Daoud, a U.S.-trained Afghan police commander. Gruesome photos of the carnage are shown here, in a movie that doesn't turn away from images of extreme gore. In the official U.S. explanation of what happened,

emerged into view after the killing of Osama bin Laden. In a widely circulated image, its former commander, Vice Adm. William H. McRaven, is shown sitting with President Barack Obama and his inner circle as they observe the operation. McRaven was subsequently lauded as a national hero.



Jeremy Scahill, center, in Somalia in the documentary "Dirty Wars," which he wrote with David Riker, in an undated handout image. "Dirty Wars," directed by Rick Rowley, examines the hidden war on terror run by the United States.

(Richard Rowley/IFC Films via The New York Times)

increasing hatred of the United States that would have delighted Osama bin Laden. Because it is a hidden war, there are few congressional restraints on how it is conducted. The bearer of these bad tidings, Jeremy Scahill, who wrote the movie with David Riker, is a national security correspondent for The Nation and the author of the recently published "Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield" and "Blackwater: The Rise of the World's Most Powerful Mercenary Army." Scahill, 38, narrates the film like a hard-boiled gumshoe following leads in a film noir. The cinematography includes some noirish touches, and there is somber music by the Kronos Quartet. Like "Inside Job," Charles Ferguson's incendiary exposé of Wall Street malpractice, "Dirty Wars" cuts to the chase. Scahill's journey into the heart of darkness begins in Gardez, Afghanistan, in February 2010, when two

the women were victims of a Taliban honor killing, although U.S. soldiers were seen digging bullets out of their bodies. Daoud's death was called "unfortunate." Scahill subsequently learns that during one week in Afghanistan, there were 1,700 such night raids. His sleuthing leads to his discovery that the attack was carried out by the Joint Special Operations Command, a covert military unit that operates not only in Afghanistan but also in countries on which no war has been declared. Algeria, Indonesia, Jordan and Thailand are mentioned. The covert command fully

The film devotes special attention to the death by drone attack of the U.S.-born Islamic cleric Anwar al-Awlaki in Yemen in September 2011. Scahill travels to Yemen and Somalia and comes away convinced that conventional war, as waged by the U.S. in the Middle East and Africa, is being superseded by a new form of warfare waged in secrecy and often by remote control by shadowy forces working from "kill lists" and accountable directly to the White House. (Last month Obama announced plans to restrict the use of unmanned drone strikes.) □

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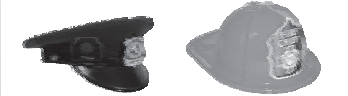
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Study sheds light on origins of French winemaking

GREG KELLER
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Scrapings from the bottoms of 2,500-year-old pottery containers have shed new light on the origins of French winemaking.

A team of archaeologists led by the University of Pennsylvania's Patrick McGovern used biomolecular analysis to confirm that fifth-century B.C. Etruscan amphorae found near Montpellier in southern France once contained a type of wine flavored with thyme, rosemary and basil. Archaeological evidence and ancient texts have long provided reasonable certainty that seafaring Etruscans from central Italy introduced imported wine to their trading outpost of Lattara, now the French city of Lattes.

The new evidence backs this up.

The study, published in the May 1, 2013 issue of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, also demonstrates that local Celts had begun making wine at Lattara by the end of the fifth century B.C.

Tracing winemaking's ancient roots is important because of wine's "crucial role in the transfer of culture from one people to another around the world," the study says.

Some evidence exists that Greeks living in what is now Marseille began making a local wine around the same time, or even earlier. But McGovern's research is the first to prove using chemical analysis that the Celts in Lattara had learned how to make wine from Etruscans and had begun producing it themselves by at least the fifth century B.C., McGovern said.

Besides the amphorae, the researchers also analyzed a limestone press found at Lattara and demonstrated that it was in fact used to press grapes, not olives, as had been thought previously.

"First the Etruscans built up an interest in wine, then the native Gauls saw that this



In this Sept. 4, 2012 file photo, a worker collects white grapes in the vineyards of the Chateau Haut Brion, a Premier Grand Cru des Graves, during the grape harvest in Pessac-Leognan, near Bordeaux, southwestern France.

Associated Press

was something that they wanted to do themselves," McGovern said. The Gauls would have learned grape growing and winemaking techniques from the Etruscans, with whom Lattara was an important trading outpost on France's Mediterranean shore.

Hundreds of years later, the Roman invasion helped spread winemaking across what is now France.

McGovern is the author of "Ancient Wine: the Search for the Origins of Viniculture."

In order to prove that the press was used to crush

grapes, the researchers received permission to chisel off a 5x5-centimeter chunk of the limestone wine press. The samples were sent back to the University of Pennsylvania Museum where techniques including mass spectrometry were used to isolate and identify chemi-

cal compounds left in the stone and pottery.

Jean-Pierre Garcia, a professor of geo-archaeology and expert on early French winemaking at the University of Burgundy in Dijon, said the study provided useful confirmation of what other researchers already believed based on archaeological and historical evidence.

"It's new to use this kind of analysis on the amphorae at Lattara, but it's a confirmation, it's not especially new," Garcia said.

Garcia said that whether or not it was the Celts or the Greeks who were the first to make wine in what is now France, "The bottom line is that the expansion of wine culture in France was due to the Romans."

Lattara is in France's Languedoc-Roussillon wine-making region, which coincidentally is where one of McGovern's favorite wines comes from. The scientist says he picked up a taste for Banyuls, a sweet wine introduced by the Romans further along the coast near the border with Spain, in the early 1990s while doing research there. □

Fertility drugs, nature better than horse roundups

SCOTT SONNER
Associated Press

RENO, Nevada (AP) — A scathing independent scientific review of wild horse roundups in the U.S. West concludes the government would be better off investing in widespread fertility control of the mustangs and let nature cull any excess herds instead of spending millions to house them in overflowing holding pens.

A 14-member panel assembled by the National Science Academy's National Research Council, at the request of the Bureau of Land Management, concluded BLM's removal of nearly 100,000 horses from the Western range over the past decade is probably having the opposite effect of its intention to

ease ecological damage and reduce overpopulated herds.

By stepping in prematurely when food and water supplies remain adequate, and with most natural predators long gone, the land management agency is producing artificial conditions that ultimately serve to perpetuate population growth, the committee said Wednesday in a 451-page report recommending more emphasis on the use of contraceptives and other methods of fertility control.

The research panel sympathized with BLM's struggle to find middle ground between horse advocates and ranchers who see the animals as unwelcome competitors for forage. It noted there's "little if any

public support" for allowing harm to come to either the horses or the rangeland itself.

The report says the current method may work in the short term, but results in continually high population growth, exacerbating the long-term problem.

The American Wild Horse Preservation Fund, a national coalition of more than 50 advocacy groups, said the report makes a strong case for an immediate halt to the roundups that livestock ranchers say are necessary to protect the range and provide their sheep and cattle with a fair share of forage.

"This is a turning point for the decades-long fight to protect America's mustangs," said Neda DeMayo, president of the coalition's Re-

turn to Freedom.

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association is among the livestock groups that have voiced support in the past for aggressive, increased use of fertility control but remain adamantly opposed to curtailing roundups.

Horse advocates themselves are not united behind the idea of stepping up use of contraception on the range.

"We are grateful that the National Academy of Science recommends stopping cruel roundups, but we challenge their decision to control alleged overpopulation like a domestic herd with humans deciding who survives and breeds," said Anne Novak, executive director of Protect Mustangs in San Francisco. □



This comic image released by Archie Comics shows Veronica, left, Archie, center, and Betty, characters from the Archie's comic book series. Associated Press

Live-action Archie comics movie planned

JAKE COYLE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Archie's old Riverdale gang is headed to the big screen. Archie Comics announced Thursday that Warner Bros. will produce a live-action film based on the comic's characters, including Archie, Betty, Veronica and Jughead. It will be the first feature film for the 72-year-old comic.

Directing will be Jason Moore, who helmed the 2012 high school musical comedy "Pitch Perfect." "Glee" writer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa is penning the script. In an interview Thursday, Aguirre-Sacasa said the present-day film will be "a quintessential teen movie."

"The idea for this is to capture a very truthful, authentic coming-of-age story with these kids that includes heartache, that includes pain, that will obviously temper the fun and the hijinks," said Aguirre-Sacasa. "It's going to be a fun — hopefully — summer movie, but we're not shying away from the truth and the awkwardness and the growing pains of being a teenager."

The Archie Comics, founded by John L. Goldwater, were always a quaint, sunny picture of small town teen life. So updating the characters for today's

young moviegoers could pose challenges for the filmmakers.

The Archie comics have previously spawned several animated TV series since the 1960s. In 1990, NBC aired the TV film "Archie: To Riverdale and Back Again."

"There are parts of the story that I think people will be surprised how dark and real it gets," says Aguirre-Sacasa.

Aguirre-Sacasa, who's also a playwright and Marvel Comics writer, has an interesting history with Archie Comics. One of his first plays, originally titled "Archie's Weird Fantasy," was about Archie coming out of the closet. After legal action was threatened, the Atlanta production was changed to "Weird Comic Book Fantasy" with the characters' names changed. Aguirre-Sacasa is now obviously on much friendlier terms with Archie Comics. He's also writing a zombie series titled, "Afterlife With Archie."

Conjecture has thus followed that the film will include a supernatural element, but Aguirre-Sacasa dispels that notion: "It won't be 'Archie and the Walking Dead,'" he says.

He's currently in the midst of writing the script. No start date has yet been scheduled for production. □

Paris Jackson now in all-too-familiar spotlight

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Jackson's family is saying little about the hospitalization of his 15-year-old daughter while pleading for privacy and saying nothing about the cause of her ailment.

Paris Jackson was "physically fine and is getting appropriate medical attention," attorney Perry Sanders Jr., said in a statement Wednesday.

All fire and sheriff's officials would say is that they transported someone from a home on Paris' suburban Calabasas street in the middle of the night for a possible overdose. They did not release any identifying information or additional details.

"Being a sensitive 15-year-old is difficult no matter who you are," said Sanders, who represents Katherine Jackson, a guardian of Paris and Michael Jackson's two sons, Prince and Blanket. "It is especially difficult when you lose the person closest to you."

Paris' uncles Tito, Marlon and Jackie echoed that sentiment in their statement Wednesday: "Thank you for the outpouring of concern and support for Paris — she is safe and doing fine. We truly appreciate you respecting our family's privacy at this time."

On Tuesday, Paris hinted at her state of mind on Twitter, posting, "I wonder why tears are salty?" followed by lyrics from the Beatles' song "Yesterday": "yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away, now it looks as though they're here to stay."

Since Michael Jackson's death in 2009, Paris has emerged as the most visible of his children, granting interviews to Oprah Winfrey and Ellen DeGeneres, appearing in magazine articles and amassing more than a million followers on Twitter. She has also expressed interest in starting

a singing career and has plans to star in a movie.

A 20-minute video of the teen applying makeup was posted to YouTube last week. It shows Jackson in what she describes as her bedroom playfully demonstrating how she does her eye makeup. She also makes goofy faces and says, "I need serious help. I'm crazy!"

Paris wrote on Twitter that

lawsuit claims AEG failed to properly investigate the doctor convicted of causing the singer's death, and pushed the superstar to rehearse and perform a planned series of 50 comeback shows titled "This Is It." Paris and Prince are listed as potential witnesses in the case, which is in its sixth week of trial.

Marvin S. Putnam, a defense attorney for AEG



In this Oct. 8, 2011 file photo Paris Jackson smiles on stage at the Michael Forever the Tribute Concert, at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales. Jackson is physically fine after being taken to a hospital early Wednesday, June 5, 2013, an attorney for Jackson's mother said. Associated Press

she doesn't know how the video, in which she repeatedly asserts, "I am so weird," ended up on YouTube.

"I hope you guys liked it tho and didn't think i'm too crazy," she wrote. "i get weird when i'm not around people lol."

Katherine Jackson shares guardianship of her son's three children with the singer's nephew, TJ Jackson. Paris and Prince are listed as plaintiffs in a lawsuit filed by their grandmother Katherine Jackson against concert giant AEG Live LLC, who she claims is responsible for her son's death. The

Live, joined in the family's calls for privacy.

"There's a real person involved here," Putnam said. "There's a 15-year-old girl and something incredibly tragic has happened that none of us know why and I think it would really be in everyone's best interest and particularly in her best interest if rather than blowing this up into something else, that they were given a little bit of privacy to deal with something that has to be a tragic, tragic moment for all of them."

"She's 15," he said. "Someone should give her a break." □

Technicolor star Esther Williams dies at age 91

BOB THOMAS

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Esther Williams, the swimming champion turned actress who starred in glittering and aquatic Technicolor musicals of the 1940s and 1950s, has died. She was 91.

Williams died early Thursday in her sleep, according to her longtime publicist Harlan Boll.

Following in the footsteps of Sonja Henie, who went from skating champion to movie star, Williams became one of Hollywood's biggest moneymakers, appearing in spectacular swimsuit numbers that capitalized on her wholesome beauty and perfect figure.

Such films as "Easy to Wed," "Neptune's Daughter" and "Dangerous When Wet" followed the same formula: romance, music, a bit of comedy and a flimsy plot that provided excuses to get Esther into the water. The extravaganzas dazzled a second generation via television and the compilation films "That's Entertainment." Williams' co-stars included the pick of the MGM contract list, including Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Red Skelton, Ricardo Montalban and Howard Keel.

When hard times signaled the end of big studios and costly musicals in the mid-'50s, Williams tried

non-swimming roles with little success. After her 1962 marriage to Fernando Lamas, her co-star in "Dangerous When Wet," she retired from public life.

She explained in a 1984 interview: "A really terrific guy comes along and says, 'I wish you'd stay home and be my wife,' and that's the most logical thing in the world for a Latin. And I loved being a Latin wife — you get treated very well. There's a lot of attention in return for that sacrifice."

She came to films after winning 100-meter freestyle and other races at the 1939 national championships and appearing at the San Francisco World's Fair's swimming exhibition.

As with Judy Garland, Donna Reed and other stars, Williams was introduced in one of Mickey Rooney's Andy Hardy films, "Andy Hardy's Double Life" (1942). She also played a small role in "A Guy Named Joe" before "Bathing Beauty" in 1944 began the string of immensely popular musical spectacles.

Among them: "Thrill of a Romance," "Fiesta," "This Time for Keeps," "On an Island with You," "Take Me out to the Ballgame," "Duchess of Idaho," "Pagan Love Song," "Texas Carnival," "Skirts Ahoy," "Million Dollar Mermaid" (as Annette Kellerman, an earlier swimming cham-



This Jan. 28, 2004 file photo shows Esther Williams at the funeral service for dancer/actress Ann Miller at St. Mel Catholic Church in Los Angeles' Woodland Hills area.

Associated Press

pion turned entertainer), "Dangerous When Wet," "Easy to Love" and "Jupiter's Darling."

Williams in a bathing suit became a favorite pin-up of Americans in World War II, and her popularity continued afterward. She was a refreshing presence among MGM's stellar gallery — warm, breezy, with a frankness and self-deprecating humor that delighted interviewers.

She laughed as much as anyone over an assessment by Fanny Brice, the original "Funny Girl": "Es-

ther Williams? Wet, she's a star. Dry, she ain't."

After leaving MGM, she starred in two Universal dramatic films, "The Unguarded Moment" and "Raw Wind in Eden." Neither was successful. In 1961 Lamas directed her last film, "The Magic Fountain," in Spain. It was never released in America.

When she published her autobiography in 1999, she titled it "The Million Dollar Mermaid."

Esther Jane Williams grew up destined for a career in athletics. She was born

Aug. 8, 1921, in Inglewood, a suburb southwest of Los Angeles, one of five children.

(Some references give a birth year of 1922 or 1923, but she told The Associated Press in 2004 that the correct date was 1921. "I think we ought to just count our blessings," she said at the time. "You get old. It happens, but oh, what life we had when we were young.")

A public pool was not far from the modest home where Williams was raised, and it was there that an older sister taught her to swim. When she was in her teens, the Los Angeles Athletic Club offered to train her four hours a day, aiming for the 1940 Olympic Games at Helsinki. In 1939, she won the Women's Outdoor Nationals title in the 100-meter freestyle, set a record in the 100-meter breaststroke and was a part of several winning relay teams. But the outbreak of war in Europe that year canceled the 1940 Olympics, and Esther dropped out of competition to earn a living. She was selling clothes in a Wilshire Boulevard department store when showman Billy Rose tapped her for a bathing beauty job at the World's Fair in San Francisco.

While there, she was spotted by an MGM producer and an agent.

She laughed at the suggestion she do films that would popularize swimming, as Henie had done with ice skating.

"Frankly I didn't get it," she recalled. "If they had asked me to do some swimming scenes for a star, that would have made sense to me. But to ask me to act was sheer insanity." She finally agreed to visit MGM boss Louis B. Mayer, and recalled that she took the job after her mother told her: "No one can avoid a challenge in life without breeding regret, and regret is the arsenic of life."

Lamas was Williams' third husband. Before her fame she was married briefly to a medical student. □

'The Bridges of Madison County' will hit Broadway

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — "The Bridges of Madison County" — the book made into a film starring Meryl Streep and Clint Eastwood — is heading to Broadway as a musical. Producers said Thursday the show, with songs by Jason Robert Brown and a book by Marsha Norman which debuts at the Williamstown Theatre Festival in Massachusetts this August, will land at the Gerald Schoenfeld Theater in January.

Based on Robert Waller's best-selling novel, the story features Iowa's covered bridges as the focal point for a romance between a woman and a photographer.

No casting was announced. Bartlett Sher will direct.

Norman won a Tony for writing "night, Mother" and Brown wrote "Parade" and "The Last Five Years." In an interview, Brown called "Bridges," "a deeply romantic piece in the fullest sense of the word." □



This undated film image released by Warner Bros. shows Clint Eastwood, left, and actress Meryl Streep in a scene from, "The Bridges of Madison County."

Associated Press

Israel Lives The Joseph Story



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2013 New York Times

How would you like to be an Israeli strategist today? Now even Turkey is in turmoil as its people push back on their increasingly autocratic leader. I mean, there goes the neighborhood. The good news for Israel is that in the near term its near neighbors are too internally consumed to think about threatening it. In the long run, though, Israel faces two serious challenges that I'd dub the Stephen Hawking Story and the Joseph Story.

In case you missed it, Hawking, the British physicist, cosmologist and author of "A Brief History of Time," canceled a planned trip to Israel this month to attend the fifth annual Israeli Presidential Conference. Cambridge University, where Hawking is a professor, said Hawking had told Israelis that he would not be attending "based on advice from Palestinian academics that he should respect the boycott" of Israel because of the West Bank occupation.

"Never has a scientist of this stature boycotted Israel," Yigal Palmor, of Israel's Foreign Ministry, declared.

I strongly disagree with what Hawking did. Israelis should be engaged, not boycotted. Nevertheless, his action found wide resonance. The Boston Globe said Hawking's decision was "a reasonable way to express one's political views. Observers need not agree with Hawking's position in order to understand and even respect his choice. The movement that Hawking has signed on to aims to place pressure on Israel through peaceful means."

That was not Al-Ahram. That was The Boston Globe - a reminder that in this age of social networks, populist revolts and superempowered individuals, "international public opinion matters more not less," notes the Israeli political theorist Yaron Ezrahi, the author of "Imagined Democracies." And, in Israel's case, it is creating a powerful surge of international opinion, particularly in Europe and on college campuses, that Israel is a pariah state because of its West Bank occupation. It is not a good trend for Israel. It makes it that much more dependent on America alone for support.

This global trend, though, is coinciding with a complete breakdown in Israel's regional environment. Israel today is living a version of the Biblical "Joseph Story," where Joseph endeared himself to the Pharaoh by interpreting his dreams as a warning that seven fat years would be fol-

lowed by seven lean years and, therefore, Egypt needed to stock up on grain. In Israel's case, it has enjoyed, relatively speaking, 40 fat years of stable governments around it. Over the last 40 years, a class of Arab leaders took power and managed to combine direct or indirect oil money, with multiple intelligence services, with support from either America or Russia, to ensconce themselves in office for multiple decades. All of these leaders used their iron fists to keep their sectarian conflicts - Sunnis versus Shiites, Christians versus Muslims, and Kurds and Palestinian refugees versus everyone else - in check. They also kept their Islamists underground. With these iron-fisted leaders being toppled - and true, multisectarian democracies with effective governments yet to emerge in their place - Israel is potentially facing decades of unstable or no governments surrounding it. Only Jordan offers Israel a normal border. In the hinterlands beyond, Israel is looking at dysfunctional states that are either imploding (like Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Bahrain and Libya) or exploding (like Syria).

But here's what's worse: These iron-fisted leaders not only suppressed various political forces in their societies but also badly ignored their schools, environments, women's empowerment and population explosions. Today, all these bills are coming due just when their governments are least able to handle them.

Therefore, the overarching theme for Israeli strategy in the coming years must be "resiliency" - how to maintain a relatively secure environment and thriving economy in a collapsing region. In my view, that makes resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict more important than ever for three reasons: 1) to reverse the trend of international delegitimization closing in on Israel; 2) to disconnect Israel as much as possible from the regional conflicts around it; and 3) to offer a model. There is no successful model of democratic governance in the Arab world at present - the Islamists are all failing. But Israel, if it partnered with the current moderate Palestinian leadership in the West Bank, has a chance to create a modern, economically thriving, democratic, secular state where Christians and Muslims would live side by side - next to Jews. That would be a hugely valuable example, especially at a time when the Arab world lacks anything like it. And the world for the most part would not begrudge Israel keeping its forces on the Jordan River - as will be necessary given the instability beyond - if it ceded most of the West Bank and Arab neighborhoods of East Jerusalem.

Together, Israelis and Palestinians actually have the power to model what a decent, postauthoritarian, multireligious Arab state could look like. Nothing would address both people's long-term strategic needs better. Too bad their leaders today are not as farsighted as Joseph. □



Cut The Strings To George III



MAUREEN DOWD
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WASHINGTON - You see glistening mermaid sightings on Animal Planet more than you catch glimpses of vintage John McCain on Capitol Hill.

But there he was Tuesday, succinctly saying what needed to be said about the scourge of sexual assault cases in the military.

Looking grimly at the ribbon-bedecked white male heads of all the services, testifying before the Armed Services Committee, McCain scolded: "Just last night a woman came to me and said her daughter wanted to join the military and could I give my unqualified support for her doing so. I could not."

Are women who want to join the military now more afraid of being raped by their brothers in arms than dying for their country?

The seven women on the committee are driving the mission to curb the plague of sexual transgressions in the military, with 26,000 service men and women assaulted in 2012.

"Women are not going to be turned away on this one," Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., told me. But men on both sides of the aisle were also pressing the top generals and admirals, even though some, like Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., still seemed to be getting up to speed on the issue.

"Several years ago, when we had the first females go out on an aircraft carrier that when they returned to port," Chambliss said he recalled, "a significant percentage of those females were pregnant." Was any investigation done, he asked, to determine whether those pregnancies were the result of "consensual acts"? The brass agreed there was a "cancer" in the military, but their rigid, nonsensical response boiled down to: Trust us. We'll fix the system, even though we don't really believe it's broken.

They were unanimously resistant to the shift that several of our allies have made, giving lawyers, rather than commanders, the power to take cases to court. This even though they were having a hard time coming up with examples of any commanders who had been removed from their posts for allowing a toxic climate on sexual assault.

In fact, the military honchos made it clear that, after months of public dismay, they hadn't even gotten around to studying the systems our allies put in place to achieve objective decision-making, where commanders can't protect buddies or Top Gun criminals. "Talking to people who have managed this problem longer than we have seems to me the very easiest place to start," chided Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo.

Eugene Fidell, who teaches military justice at Yale Law School, told me the arguments of the brass "boiled down to an almost mystical notion of the commanders' responsibility. Why can't we cut the strings to the British system we inherited from George III? The British are baffled by us. They gave control over major crimes to professional prosecutors years ago. It's an institutional structure that has outlived its utility and credibility."

As Sarah Plummer, a beautiful ex-Marine who served in Iraq and says she was raped by a fellow Marine who was never

prosecuted, explained to NBC News' Jim Miklaszewski: "Having someone within your direct chain of command handling the case" is like "your brother raping you and having your dad decide the case." The military big shots admitted that they had taken their eyes off the ball but blamed it on a decade of two wars.

"Commanders having the authority to take a case to trial hasn't gotten rid of the large number of sexual assaults and rapes or encouraged more people to come forward and report crimes," Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., told me. "In fact, it has had the opposite effect."

She told the military chiefs that "not every single commander can distinguish between a slap on the ass and a rape."

There's no excuse for permitting a system to allow commanders to sweep things under the rug and allow threats of retaliation. The Naval Academy is reeling from a case of a female midshipman who reported she was raped by three Navy football players at an off-campus party last year. The men were not charged, but the woman was punished for underage drinking. West Point is roiled by two cases: A sergeant first class in charge of the welfare of some cadets has been accused of illicitly videotaping female cadets as they disrobed in the bathroom or shower; and the men's rugby team was temporarily disbanded after players exchanged emails that were degrading to women.

On the Hill, the brass argued that they could not retain "cohesion" and "order" if commanders were not calling all the legal shots. But Nancy Parrish, the president of a victims' rights group, told a chilling story about a young woman in a combat zone who had tried four times to report a soldier she says raped her. She saw him coming toward her truck as she got ready for a mission and recalled her feelings: "I shut down inside." □

Summer Books: Riding Waves of Mystery and Adventure

JANET MASLIN

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"Welcome to Joyland," says the archway leading into a vintage amusement park in Stephen King's latest work of ultra-pulp fiction. This "Joyland" is not innocent, of course. Its retro thrills include an enticingly steamy cover, Hard Case Crime's sensually tactile paperback format, and a cover line that asks, "Who Dares Enter the Funhouse of Fear?"

King's book title is also a great name for the playground that summer reading can provide. To get to a book lover's "Joyland," just leave your guilt at the door, seek gratification over edification, and don't take offense easily. When Kevin Kwan's "Crazy Rich Asians" has a mother in Singapore telling her girls to finish everything on their plates because "there are children starving in America," it's OK to get the joke. There's no need to dwell on what it really means.

"Crazy Rich Asians" is this summer's "Bergdorf Blondes," over-the-top funny and a novelty to boot. Kwan delivers non-stop hoots about a whole new breed of rich, vulgar, brand-name-dropping conspicuous consumers, with its own delicacies, curses, vices, stereotypes ("I hope she's not one of those Taiwanese tornadoes!") and acronyms. According to Kwan, this crowd uses UBC, as the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, is known, to mean "University of a Billion Chinese."

How rich and vulgar are the Anglophile Asians of this debut novel? Rich enough to throw a diamond of more than 30 carats into a snowdrift and not look for it. So vulgar that a Cirque du Soleil troupe has to show up to convey that things have gotten crass. So steeped in wretched excess that one man boasts about the precise temperature his climate-controlled shoe closet should be.

But no Joyland is without its dark side. (Remember, "Gone Girl" was the runaway summer hit of 2012.)

And not even this season's romances are without their sinister aspects. J. Courtney Sullivan, who followed up the success of "Com-mencement" with a wrong turn into the summer-house beach book genre ("Maine"), reverts to love and marriage with "The Engagements."

This is a book that pivots

of telling different love stories in different time periods, from 1947 to 2012. At each stage of the game, the engagement ring has a different meaning.

Rebecca Lee writes about star-crossed love too, in the dinner party tale that opens her first-rate short-story collection, "Bobcat." A group of couples and

kaway," Wilton Barnhardt's big, enveloping novel about a status-conscious North Carolina family. "Nothing Could Be Finer" is the name of one relative's scabrous essay about boozy college life in Chapel Hill. Cordelia Florabloom is the fictitious Confederate belle about whom another relative keeps writing popular novels. And Jerene Jarvis Johnston is the book's real-world matriarch, fighting on the side of debutante propriety in the Dixieland to which the title refers.

"Lookaway, Lookaway" has a strong satirical side - although nobody beats Carl Hiaasen when it comes to making fun of Southern manners, South Florida-style. And nobody makes readers happier by publishing a new comedy for summertime. Hiaasen's latest is "Bad Monkey," a beach book par excellence, in which satire meets police blotter. That's because he is still a working journalist, to the good fortune of The Miami Herald's readers.

"The typical Key West murder is a drunken altercation over debts, dope or dance partners," Hiaasen writes with irresistible, deadpan aplomb. "Premeditated robbery-homicides are rare because they require a level of planning and sober enterprise seldom encountered among the island's indolent felons."

"Bad Monkey" begins with the slightly surreal appearance of a disembodied arm on a fisherman's line. But this is such a big year for the surreal that one stray arm barely qualifies as unusual. Not when compared with the wild adventure in Joe Hill's "NOS4A2," which takes its title from the license plate on one very spooky old car and sends a time-traveling heroine into unexpected realms on NOS4A2's trail.

Hill, a son of Stephen and Tabitha King's, has written a big, exciting fantasy novel that takes care never to wander too far from credibility.

For those who like adventure stories straight-up, "The Boys in the Boat," by

Daniel James Brown, is this year's closest approximation of "Unbroken." The going is considerably less tough, since this book is not about being stranded in the Pacific during wartime. It's about the University of Washington's crew team: "Nine working-class boys from the American West who at the 1936 Olympics showed the world what true grit really meant."

A more roguish, whimsical story unfolds in "The Telling Room," in which Michael Paterniti visits Spain and extracts unexpected drama from his encounter with "a hulking, heartbroken cheesemaker" and a very special cheese. Shaggy dog story? Maybe. Paterniti is best known for having wrung a whole book, "Driving Mr. Albert," out of a car trip he took with a Tupperware bowl containing Albert Einstein's brain.

If you'd rather envision the great and glamorous in less ghoulish terms, "Life at the Marmont" is back in print. This 1987 book, which the Marmont's onetime co-owner Raymond Sarlot helped write, has barely been updated - which means waiting until the brief afterword for even the most feeble name-dropping about Johnny Depp. This book's idea of "The Golden Years" is around the time that "Mr. Walt Disney came to visit Errol Flynn," according to a diary kept by one of the hotel's staffers. But if one good goal for a book about fame is that it keeps away from the Kardashians, the glory days of the Marmont do look good. This is not a big summer for brand-name mystery writers. But "The Boyfriend" is another demonstration of Thomas Perry's cool, tough-minded skill at staging battles of wits. Perry resurrects Jack Till, who appeared in "Silence" in 2007, as the ex-cop turned private eye who must piece together the thinking of a serial killer. One of the murderer's tactics is insinuating himself into the lives of victims as a boyfriend. Perry gives Till the task of figuring out exactly how this bogus boyfriend co-opts victims. □



Beach reading includes Stephen King's "Joyland," Kevin Kwan's "Crazy Rich Asians" and Rebecca Lee's short-story collection "Bobcat."

(Nancy Stahl/The New York Times)

on a marketing gimmick, the De Beers advertising slogan "A Diamond Is Forever," and the crises it can engender.

One of Sullivan's main characters is Frances Gerety, the real advertising copywriter who created that sales pitch in 1947, in the postwar era when a diamond was anything but a necessity. "The Engagements" uses the trite but stealthily satisfying device

their guilty secrets get together for an evening, and the most attention-getting speaker is a memoirist who was attacked by a bobcat. Her name is Susan, and she regales the other guests with grisly details of her hardship. Lee also makes it increasingly clear that bobcat wounds are far from the worst damage lovers can suffer.

A dishier array of secrets animates "Lookaway, Loo-